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NORTHWEST ARCTIC SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL COUNCIL ADVISORY MEETING

10
11 Kotzebue, Alaska
12 March 1, 2001
13 9:15 o'clock a.m.
14
15

16 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

17
18 Willie Goodwin, Jr., Chair
19 Joe Arey
20 Percy Ballot, Sr.
21 Bert Greist
22 Enoch Shiedt, Sr.
23 Rosie Ward
24
25
26 Coordinator: Barb Armstrong

P R O C E E D I N G S

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CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: We'll call this meeting to order, the Northwest Arctic Subsistence Regional Advisory Council. Today is March 1st. Roll call, please.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Willie Goodwin.

CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Raymond Stoney is excused, he is sick. Joe Arey.

MR. AREY: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Percy is excused. Rosie Ward.

MS. WARD: Yes.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Enoch, I don't know where he's at. Bert Greist.

MR. GREIST: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You have a quorum.

CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I'd certainly want to welcome every one of you, why don't we just go around the room and make introductions starting with the.....

REPORTER: My name is Tina, I'm the Court Reporter for the day.

MR. SIMMONS: I'm Rod Simmons. I'm with Fish and Wildlife Service with the Fisheries Office and serve on the inter-agency Staff Committee.

MR. STORM: Mike Storm, wildlife biologist with the Park Service here in Kotzebue.

MR. JENNINGS: Good morning. Tim Jennings, I'm with the Office of Subsistence Management, Fish and Wildlife Service in Anchorage.

MR. SHULTS: Brad Shults, wildlife biologist for the Park Service.

MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson, subsistence program coordinator for the Western Arctic National Park

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1 lands.

2

3 MR. NELSON: Dave Nelson. I'm a fishery
4 biologist with the National Park Service working out of
5 Anchorage.

6

7 MR. UBERUAGA: Richard Uberuaga with the
8 Fish and Wildlife Service in Anchorage, Subsistence Office.

9

10 MR. MAGDANZ: Jim Magdanz with ADF&G
11 Subsistence here in Kotzebue.

12

13 MS. MEYERS: Randy Meyers, Bureau of Land
14 Management here in Kotzebue.

15

16 MS. AYRES: LeeAnne Ayres, biologist with
17 Fish and Wildlife Service, Selawik Refuge here in Kotzebue.

18

19 MS. COLE: I'm Jeanie Cole, Bureau of Land
20 Management out of Fairbanks.

21

22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Barb Armstrong,
23 coordinator for Northwest and North Slope.

24

25 MR. DAU: Jim Dau, Fish and Game, Kotzebue.

26

27 MS. FOX: Peggy Fox, Office of Subsistence
28 Management in Anchorage.

29

30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Item 4 is the
31 agenda, any changes anyone wishes to make?

32

33 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, I have under
34 reports for Fish and Game, you'll notice that 11C, I have
35 taken out Fred DeCicco, he will not be present today but
36 there is a report for him, just a yellow sheet. And also
37 under 11, the BLM has been stricken because Randy called me
38 yesterday and said that she does not have any report from
39 BLM so that was still status quo.

40

41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

42

43 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And so far those are the
44 only changes that I know of as of now.

45

46 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So you just want to add
47 Fred DeCicco?

48

49 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No, delete for Fish and
50 Game.

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1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. And John Trent
2 and Joe Ballot are going to be here?

3
4 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: They should be here this
5 morning.

6
7 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

8
9 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Because John should be
10 coming in this morning and I told him that his report would
11 be this afternoon. So as far as I know he still will be
12 here.

13
14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, so we'll be
15 operating out of this agenda, on the green one?

16
17 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

18
19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Anybody wish to
20 make a motion on amending the agenda?

21
22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And.....

23
24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Oh.

25
26 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Excuse me. I think we
27 have a -- is Rod Simmons reporting for Steve Klein.

28
29 MS. FOX: No, Richard Uberuaga is.

30
31 MR. UBERUAGA: Rich.

32
33 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Richard Uberuaga will be
34 taking Steve Klein's place under 11A, one, two and three
35 and four.

36
37 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

38
39 MS. FOX: Actually I'll be doing part of
40 it.

41
42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And number 1 will be by
43 Peggy Fox and two, three and four will be by Richard.

44
45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

46
47 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's all I have for
48 now.

49
50 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a motion to

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1 amend.

2

3 MS. WARD: So moved.

4

5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second?

6

7 MR. AREY: Second.

8

9 MR. GREIST: Question.

10

11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Discussion. All
12 those in favor signify by saying aye.

13

14 IN UNISON: Aye.

15

16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Opposed, same sign.

17

18 (No opposing votes)

19

20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Item five is review and
21 adopt the minutes of public meeting September 21st, 2000.
22 The minutes are in the packet, any correction -- let's get
23 it on the floor first, anyone wish to make a motion to
24 adopt the minutes?

25

26 MR. GREIST: Mr. Chairman, I move that we
27 adopt the minutes of our public meeting held on September
28 21, 2000.

29

30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second?

31

32 MS. WARD: Second.

33

34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any discussions or
35 changes to be made.

36

37 MR. GREIST: I don't see any. Call for the
38 question.

39

40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All those in favor
41 signify by saying aye.

42

43 IN UNISON: Aye.

44

45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Opposed.

46

47 (No opposing votes)

48

49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: At this time, I'll open
50 it to the public for any comments regarding what's on the

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1 agenda. I'll extend the comment period throughout the
2 meeting so if there's anybody wishing to make any comment
3 from the public regarding the issues before us, please let
4 us know.

5

6 Council members reports. Rosie, you got
7 anything to report?

8

9 MS. WARD: Not at this time, maybe tomorrow
10 I'll have a report to give out.

11

12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Joe.

13

14 MR. AREY: No, not right now.

15

16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Bert.

17

18 MR. GREIST: None right now. I know we are
19 still concerned about the beaver issue, but other than
20 that, it's an ongoing thing.

21

22 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is that beaver issue,
23 it's kind of statewide one as I understand it, is that in
24 any one of the proposals, to do a study on it; does anybody
25 know? Rod.

26

27 MR. SIMMONS: Yeah, Mr. Chair.....

28

29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Can you come up and
30 identify yourself?

31

32 MR. SIMMONS: Sure. Thank you, Mr. Chair.
33 I'm Rod Simmons with the Fish and Wildlife Service.
34 There's an ongoing study that was approved, actually in the
35 2000 subsistence fisheries monitoring program in the Fort
36 Yukon area looking at the interaction between beaver dams
37 and whitefish and looking at how that might effect
38 migrations and survivability of whitefish. And that study
39 was successfully completed this past fall and they're
40 working on the data now to look at it. But it's sort of a
41 pilot study, sort of look at some general relationships and
42 maybe apply those methodologies to other regions where this
43 is a problem. But, yeah, we're hearing about it all over
44 the state.

45

46 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So it could be used as a
47 stepping stone to do further studies in different areas?

48

49 MR. SIMMONS: That's correct.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. And maybe we
2 could request that it be done.

3
4 MR. GREIST: I understand that there were
5 some communities in the Bethel area that had similar
6 problems years and years ago. Do you know of any in the
7 Bethel area with the beaver problem?

8
9 MR. SIMMONS: Well, yeah, in the Bethel
10 area, I know that that has also come up in public meetings.
11 We hear about it all the way over in the Tok, pretty much
12 statewide, pretty much everywhere where there's good
13 populations of beaver. I think since beaver trapping has
14 been sort of not been what it used to be and, you know,
15 beaver are pretty much expanding their territories and
16 populations are up.

17
18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, thanks, Rod.

19
20 MR. SIMMONS: You bet.

21
22 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anything else?

23
24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: My reports are next on
25 the meetings that I attended. I don't have anything
26 specific but I think as we go along in the meeting
27 something might -- I might remember something here that we
28 need to discuss.

29
30 The next item is the Chair's report. You
31 have, one of the handouts was the minutes of the Regional
32 Chair's meeting regarding -- on December 3. The main item
33 was the MOA and also the protocols that were -- the
34 committees that were being discussed. And it was at that
35 meeting that I made the Fish and Wildlife Service aware
36 that I was going to appoint Bert Greist to this customary
37 and trade task force. We brought up -- there was some
38 other protocols discussed at that meeting but it was
39 deferred until this fisheries meeting to really determine
40 who was going to be appointed or suggested from the various
41 RACs to sit on the protocols because many of the Chairs
42 didn't get a chance to review the list of protocols that
43 were going to be established with their Council members and
44 we took that action at the last meeting.

45
46 On the Chairs and Federal Subsistence Board
47 meeting, much of the same things that we discussed in the
48 Chair's meeting was brought up with the Federal Subsistence
49 Board so that went well.

50

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1 Item 3, the customary and trade protocol
2 development representative, as I indicated, each region
3 submitted one name for this protocol and I appointed Bert
4 Greist from our RAC. And I don't know -- Peggy, do you
5 know when they're going to have the first meeting.

6
7 MS. FOX: No. The only -- oh, I'm sorry.

8
9 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: For customary trade?

10
11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yes.

12
13 MS. FOX: Oh, yes, I do, I'm sorry.

14
15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I think it's right now
16 for March 27 and 28.

17
18 MS. FOX: I wasn't listening. I apologize.
19 I thought you were talking about something else.

20
21 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So you'll be prepared?

22
23 MS. FOX: Yes, I'm going to pay attention.

24
25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The Federal Subsistence
26 Board fisheries meeting, our proposal to block streams was
27 passed. The only addition to the language that we saw in
28 the final form was the -- where we're required to check the
29 net at least once in a 24 hour period.

30
31 The other one that was passed was to delete
32 the regulation where there's no subsistence fishing one
33 mile from the Kelly on each side, so that was deleted.
34 Now, you can fish anywhere, Joe. That one's okay.

35
36 Any questions?

37
38 MS. WARD: That's Kelly River by Noatak?

39
40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Up Noatak, yeah.

41
42 MS. WARD: Okay.

43
44 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah. Item 5, Annual
45 report issues.

46
47 MR. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, if there's any
48 issues that you guys need to put on your annual report, I
49 need to know by April and you guys can give them to me by
50 then.

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1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Basically, I think what
2 we passed this past year would be sufficient.

3
4 MR. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, those two
5 proposals?

6
7 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

8
9 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

10
11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

12
13 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The two proposals plus
14 any items that we, you know, the user conflict meetings
15 that we've had.

16
17 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

18
19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I think it's important,
20 the Caribou Working Group.

21
22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

23
24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Good morning Dave.

25
26 MR. SPIRITES: The jet just landed so Ida's
27 on the way.

28
29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Item 6 is the
30 report from the State Board of Fish. Bert and Raymond went
31 to that meeting, unfortunately Raymond has the flu so he's
32 not here today but Bert, if you want to give a short verbal
33 report you can.

34
35 MR. GREIST: Sure. Well, out of the four
36 proposals that were mainly on sheefish, they adopted one.
37 The one concerning the -- Proposal 126, would have changed
38 sheefish net limits in the Kotzebue, they didn't take any
39 action on that. And also establishing a commercial
40 sheefish season, November 1 to February 1 for the Kotzebue
41 Kobuk Lake, they took no action on that one. There were
42 some people that, I guess, that went against the proposal.
43 Proposal 132, the reduced the sportfish bag limit on the
44 Upper Selawik to two per day which is essentially the same
45 as the Kobuk River, they adopted that. Proposal 133, that
46 would have prohibited catch and release of sheefish in the
47 spawning areas, especially during spawning time. They did
48 not take any adoption on that. They did not adopt that.

49
50 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any questions of Bert?

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1 Do you think we ought to submit that as a proposal for this
2 coming year?

3

4 MR. GREIST: I think we should consider it
5 down the road. And then we also need to probably do -- on
6 139 we probably need to fine-tune it, the issue of seasons.

7

8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: You mean on Proposal 39,
9 yeah.

10

11 MR. GREIST: So, 39, yeah, so we need to do
12 that.

13

14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: When we get to Item 9 we
15 can discuss both of them, okay?

16

17 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

18

19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Item 7, village
20 concerns. Other than what we mentioned, does anybody have
21 any concerns from their village?

22

23 MS. WARD: Beaver dams.

24

25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

26

27 MS. WARD: All over.

28

29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: We'll talk about that at
30 Item 9 about submitting that as a proposal from the RAC
31 here.

32

33 MS. WARD: Okay.

34

35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, from our area
36 here, I'm glad that the Board of Fish didn't take any
37 action on the Kobuk Lake proposals on sheefish. There was
38 quite an outcry from people that do have nets out there. A
39 lot of the people felt that there shouldn't be any
40 limitations being put on anything as long as the
41 populations are healthy, as far as subsistence is
42 concerned.

43

44 Item 8 on the agenda is election of
45 officers. What's the wish, do we want to wait until we get
46 more?

47

48 MR. GREIST: I move that we table that
49 until next meeting.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second?

2

3 MR. AREY: I second.

4

5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Discussion.

6

7 MS. WARD: Question.

8

9 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All in favor signify by
10 saying aye.

11

12 IN UNISON: Aye.

13

14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Opposed.

15

16 (No opposing votes)

17

18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Item 9, we're moving
19 right along. The call for Federal subsistence fisheries
20 proposals. That's open until March 30 but if we can have
21 two prepared, one on the beavers and I'm not sure how we
22 want to do this. What's the best way, Rod, do we need to
23 submit it as a proposal to study?

24

25 MR. SIMMONS: Yeah, Mr. Chair. My
26 understanding would be that these would be regulatory
27 proposals as opposed to project proposals.

28

29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Oh, under Item 9.

30

31 MR. B. ARMSTRONG: Item 9.

32

33 MR. SIMMONS: Yes.

34

35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. So we don't have
36 to take it up until then.

37

38 MR. SIMMONS: Well, if you wanted to submit
39 a regulatory proposal then this would be the appropriate
40 time.

41

42 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

43

44 MR. SIMMONS: But not for projects.

45

46 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Not for projects,
47 then we'll do the beaver thing on another part of the
48 agenda here.

49

50 MR. SIMMONS: Sure.

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. The only one that
2 I can think of that we want to talk about as a regulatory
3 proposal is the ones that didn't get go through as far as
4 Proposal 133, that one -- Bert, that was the one on
5 sportfishing in the spawning areas of sheefish. Do you
6 want that as a proposal from the RAC?

7
8 MR. GREIST: I would move to do so.

9
10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second?

11
12 MS. WARD: Second.

13
14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. The motion is to
15 go ahead and submit a proposal identical to 133 from the
16 RAC, from the Regional Advisory Council here, that was
17 Proposal 133 to the State Board of Fish. And that calls
18 for no sportfishing in the spawning grounds of sheefish in
19 the Selawik. Any more discussion on that?

20
21 MS. WARD: This is only on the Selawik not
22 Kobuk River?

23
24 MR. GREIST: No, just on the Upper Tag.

25
26 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah and if we want to
27 include the other region I guess we could.

28
29 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

30
31 MS. WARD: But.....

32
33 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

34
35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Let's give him a chance
36 to talk and then we'll get back to the Kobuk.

37
38 MS. WARD: Okay.

39
40 MR. MAGDANZ: Mr. Chair, I was just going
41 to suggest an amendment that would address exactly this
42 question.

43
44 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

45
46 MR. MAGDANZ: That is, rather than say
47 spawning grounds, that you identify the streams to which
48 the proposal would apply, Upper Kobuk above Maniilaq or
49 Selawik above Tag or whatever the drainages are to make it
50 absolutely clear what waters are being affected.

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1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. And what would
2 you suggest in the Kobuk, above Maniilaq?

3
4 MR. MAGDANZ: Probably. Fred DeCicco, you
5 have some time to submit this proposal so I would -- you
6 know, I would want Fred DeCicco involved in that
7 discussion.

8
9 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

10
11 MR. MAGDANZ: Yeah, I would. That's the
12 kind of language that would make it easier for the Board to
13 understand what is being proposed.

14
15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. So you want to
16 make a motion to include the Kobuk?

17
18 MR. GREIST: Amend.

19
20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Amend.

21
22 MS. WARD: I'll make a motion to include
23 the Kobuk.

24
25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second?

26
27 MR. AREY: Second.

28
29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. So even though we
30 don't have the exact wording for this proposal, I think,
31 what we want to include under discussion there, what we
32 want to include in that proposal would be to cover the
33 areas -- the spawning areas of the sheefish, both the Kobuk
34 and the Selawik areas, so whatever language is drafted,
35 whether we go from one point further, say, for instance,
36 Maniilaq or the Upper Tag or whatever it takes to name the
37 streams then we should do that in the proposal. Am I
38 clear?

39
40 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

41
42 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I mean who's going to
43 draft the proposal, Helen, is that clear enough?

44
45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's clear enough.

46
47 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

48
49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We'll work with you on
50 it.

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1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And then work with Fred
4 and get it right.

5

6 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. All right. Rod.

7

8 MR. SIMMONS: Yes, well, Mr. Chair, I'd add
9 to that that you may want to specify the time period as
10 well as the identified waters but the time period
11 associated with the spawning as opposed to closing that
12 section.

13

14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Oh, completely.

15

16 MR. SIMMONS: Right.

17

18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

19

20 MR. GREIST: The critical time is during
21 fall when they spawn.

22

23 MR. MAGDANZ: That's correct.

24

25 MR. GREIST: Late fall, basically,
26 September.

27

28 MS. WARD: Late September, yes.

29

30 MR. MAGDANZ: September, October.

31

32 MS. WARD: Late September.

33

34 MR. GREIST: By mid-August, late September.

35

36 MS. WARD: Yeah. Late September.

37

38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Uh-huh.

39

40 MR. GREIST: That's when they're most
41 affected, I think.

42

43 MS. WARD: Starting on the 15th up river.

44

45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Of September or August?

46

47 MS. WARD: September 15th.

48

49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, we can work with
50 Fred on it to get the exact date but it will be around

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1 there somewhere.

2

3 MS. WARD: Uh-huh.

4

5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: September then, the
6 month of September. Anymore discussion on the amendment?
7 All those in favor of the amendment signify by saying aye.

8

9 IN UNISON: Aye.

10
11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Opposed.

12
13 (No opposing votes)

14
15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Now, back to the main
16 motion. The main motion would be to draft the proposal to
17 include the Kobuk and Selawik areas with a time specific
18 and if needed, a listing of the streams to make the
19 proposal more clear.

20
21 MR. GREIST: I know the biologists -- under
22 discussion -- they probably more -- have liberal attitudes
23 about catch and release. The thing about sheefish is the
24 mouth is much bigger than other fish and once you hit the
25 gill and you sever any of that, that's when our mortality
26 happens.

27
28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anymore discussion on
29 the motion?

30
31 MR. GREIST: Question.

32
33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All those in favor
34 signify by saying aye.

35
36 IN UNISON: Aye.

37
38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Opposed.

39
40 (No opposing votes)

41
42 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Unanimous. Any other
43 proposals on regulatory on both game or fish?

44
45 MR. GREIST: Fisheries.

46
47 MR. H. ARMSTRONG: Actually only fish.
48 Game is in the fall.

49
50 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Oh, this is only fish,

00016

1 okay.

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We have alternating
4 cycles so on the fish, we're taking proposals now. Beaver
5 proposals would be done in the fall.

6

7 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. All right.

8

9 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You need to turn your
10 page over. On top.

11

12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Uh-huh.

13

14 MS. WARD: But I would say on the beavers,
15 they're year-round.

16

17 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, we can take it in
18 the fall time.

19

20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: In the fall time,
21 wildlife.

22

23 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: We could submit the
24 proposal in the fall meeting and then it would make the
25 cycle then. Anymore fish proposals that anyone can think
26 of that we need to submit?

27

28 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Pardon?

29

30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any other proposals
31 that.....

32

33 MR. GREIST: Fish.

34

35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:anymore fish
36 proposals?

37

38 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Except for that
39 discussion right there?

40

41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

42

43 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

44

45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Tim.

46

47 MR. JENNINGS: Yes, Mr. Chair, I know you
48 had talked about fine-tuning Proposal 39.

49

50 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, it's on the next

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1 page, it's part of that.

2

3 MR. JENNINGS: Yeah.

4

5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I was going to turn the
6 page over and get right to it. Okay. We talked about
7 fine-tuning Proposal 39, the one that was passed by the
8 Federal Board. And the discussion is that the stop date,
9 the periods of times to quit blocking the streams is
10 probably about two weeks early.

11

12 MR. GREIST: What is the time period now?

13

14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It's July 1st.

15

16 MS. WARD: It's for Noorvik area and.....

17

18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, and the Selawik,
19 yeah.

20

21 MR. GREIST: For the region.

22

23 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The whole region, the
24 whole area.

25

26 MR. GREIST: Oh, the whole area.

27

28 MS. WARD: But up river it's earlier than
29 July 1st.

30

31 MR. GREIST: It is, yeah.

32

33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I know, but.....

34

35 MS. WARD: And we don't fish like that.

36

37 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, but it's okay for
38 up river, but what we're saying is that when we have a late
39 spring, you usually don't start fishing until July 1st.

40

41 MR. GREIST: Could I have the actual
42 language for 39.

43

44 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So Barb.

45

46 MR. GREIST: Does somebody got the actual
47 language for 39.

48

49 MR. B. ARMSTRONG: Let me go to my chair.

50

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1 MR. GREIST: I think I left my.....

2

3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I think the reason why
4 the late period needed to be discussed was because, Hazel
5 Snyder.....

6

7 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Uh-huh.

8

9 MS. B. ARMSTRONG:who lives in Lower
10 Delta, her stream doesn't start coming out with the fish
11 like about July 4. And she came to me and suggested that
12 if they would keep it a little more open, at least two
13 weeks until after July 1 and that would be fine for her
14 because the ice on her lakes doesn't come out until real
15 late than the further ones up river. So that would be
16 further down and she said it would help her a great deal.

17

18 MR. GREIST: And Selawik was the whole
19 summer because of the cold.

20

21 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh, yeah.

22

23 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

24

25 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

26

27 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: And then my mother-in-
28 law also brought that to my attention also. Sometimes, she
29 said, if there's a late spring and they don't start until
30 after Fourth of July, which is.....

31

32 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh.

33

34 MR. GREIST: We had a very cold summer and
35 people just stayed out camp and we have -- we have about
36 six camps that are out the whole summer.

37

38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So would July 15th be
39 sufficient also in Selawik, Bert?

40

41 MR. GREIST: I need the actual language is
42 what I need.

43

44 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It's July 1st.

45

46 MR. GREIST: What is the language? What is
47 it?

48

49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It stops July 1st. The
50 language right now is from May 15th to July 1st, I believe.

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1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh.

2

3 MR. GREIST: What happens between May 15th
4 and July 1st?

5

6 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: That's when we can block
7 the stream.

8

9 MR. GREIST: That's what I was saying.

10

11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

12

13 MR. GREIST: We have families that are out
14 there until freeze-up.

15

16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, we're talking
17 about amending that July 1st to July 15th. I was asking
18 you if that's enough time?

19

20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: For spring.

21

22 MR. GREIST: No, that's not enough time.

23

24 MS. WARD: For spring time, you mean?

25

26 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

27

28 MS. WARD: For spring time?

29

30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

31

32 MS. WARD: For spring time, not.....

33

34 MR. GREIST: No, in Selawik, for the whole
35 summer, Mitchell, Clark, and even my family from time to
36 time, they're out the whole summer, period. And the spring
37 time and then sheefish fall, mainly, sheefish fall time,
38 between those two there's the whitefish all through the
39 season. And that's why Mitchell's fish right through.

40

41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So we have two areas of
42 concern here. One, in the Kobuk Delta, to extend to July
43 15th and for Selawik, no closure. But I don't see how
44 that.....

45

46 MR. GREIST: Well, that's just the way.....

47

48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

49

50 MR. GREIST: That's just a fact of life, I

00020

1 mean, why change it for them to accommodate.....

2

3 MS. WARD: That's traditional.....

4

5 MR. GREIST:I mean.....

6

7 MS. WARD:way, yeah.

8

9 MR. GREIST:whatever, I mean.

10

11 MS. WARD: For the people up there.

12

13 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Uh-huh.

14

15 MR. GREIST: And they don't leave it there
16 the whole summer, I mean but they stay at camp there.

17

18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, when they're
19 fishing they're.....

20

21 MR. GREIST: When they need to they go
22 ahead and, you know, they'll take it out for several days
23 and then put it back on, you know.

24

25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Uh-huh. Well, the
26 language is still in there to check it every 24 hours.

27

28 MR. GREIST: I know.

29

30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

31

32 MS. WARD: Uh-huh.

33

34 MR. GREIST: But what I'm saying is it's
35 the whole summer.

36

37 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I hear you. And that's
38 what I'm saying, we need to get those two amendments that
39 we're talking about.

40

41 MR. GREIST: Yes.

42

43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: One for the Kobuk Delta
44 to extend to July 15 and for the Selawik to.....

45

46 MR. GREIST: September.

47

48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:to October -- I
49 think it's October 15th right now.

50

00021

1 MR. GREIST: October 15th?

2

3 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah. Are we clear?

4

5 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: So what are you saying
6 now then? So for the Kobuk Delta, it would be May 15 to
7 July 15?

8

9 MR. GREIST: Yes.

10

11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And the Selawik.....

12

13 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yes.

14

15 MR. GREIST: The whole summer.

16

17 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: May 15th to October

18 15th.

19

20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: May 15th to October

21 15th?

22

23 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yes.

24

25 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And then on the way to
26 October 30th, we have.....

27

28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, is it October 30th
29 right now -- okay, well, from May -- for Selawik it would
30 be -- we would leave also the fall date also for the Kobuk
31 Delta is sufficient, I believe.

32

33 MS. WARD: Uh-huh.

34

35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, so it's for Kobuk
36 Delta, May 15th to July 15th and then Selawik is May 15th
37 to October 30.

38

39 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: And then also the fall
40 date for the Kobuk Delta.

41

42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Okay. Fall date
43 would be -- for the Kobuk Delta would be October 30.

44

45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

46

47 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: From August 15th to

48 October 30?

49

50 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah. Yeah.

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. August 15th to
2 October 30 for the Kobuk Delta, okay.

3
4 MR. GREIST: And then the other issue was,
5 I think the length of the nets was 60 feet. I checked with
6 Clark, I checked with Mitchell and I realized my own net
7 that was -- I wasn't using for awhile, it's 100 feet.

8
9 MR. B. ARMSTRONG: That's on the main
10 river, though, (In Native), right, is that on the stream?

11
12 MR. GREIST: On the length of the net for
13 the.....

14
15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I think right now the
16 wording is up to 60 feet anyway, right, Willie?

17
18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

19
20 MR. GREIST: But what I'm saying is
21 ours.....

22
23 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, yeah.

24
25 MR. GREIST:is 100 feet.

26
27 MS. WARD: You mean the mesh?

28
29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: No.

30
31 MR. GREIST: The length.

32
33 MS. WARD: Or the length?

34
35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

36
37 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

38
39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: The length.

40
41 MS. WARD: In streams you don't (In Native)
42 up to 60 feet unless it's early spring. I mean.....

43
44 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: They do in Selawik.

45
46 MR. GREIST: We do in Selawik.

47
48 MS. WARD: Oh. (In Native)

49
50 MR. GREIST: Hundred feet. We have, just

00023

1 the Selawik alone has got 97,000 lakes, that valley, see,
2 you can go from lake to stream and go for a whole week and
3 not cover the same area.

4

5 MS. WARD: But you don't use that net in
6 (In Native), in back streams for.....

7

8 MR. GREIST: Our nets are a hundred feet.

9

10 MS. WARD:where -- during the flood?

11

12 MR. GREIST: Mitchell, Clark, Davis and,
13 yeah, David Greist, too.

14

15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So that's the other
16 modification you want to make is.....

17

18 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

19

20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:to make it to a
21 hundred feet?

22

23 MR. GREIST: Nets up to hundred feet.

24

25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Rod.

26

27 MR. SIMMONS: Yeah, Mr. Chair. I just want
28 to -- my understanding is, is the 60 foot limitation is
29 relative to situations where you'd be blocking the entire
30 stream. I wasn't sure from your discussions whether --
31 when you were talking about using the hundred foot net,
32 whether that was in cases where, in open water bodies where
33 you were fishing normally in larger water bodies, but that
34 restriction would put in -- that regulation we tried to
35 work with the Council on last year with the 60 feet
36 limitation was relative to situations where you were
37 blocking an entire water-way. I just wanted to clarify
38 that.

39

40 MR. GREIST: And we're using hundred foot
41 is the problem.....

42

43 MR. SIMMONS: Okay.

44

45 MR. GREIST:in reality. Go check
46 with the Clarks, the Davis', the Greists and the Mitchells.

47

48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What we're saying is
49 we're proposing to extend from 60 feet to 100 feet.

50

1 MR. SIMMONS: Okay.

2

3 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: That would be the
4 modification.....

5
6 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

7

8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:also another
9 modification for 39. Go ahead.

10

11 MR. SIMMONS: Yeah, one other comment that
12 I just wanted to bring before the Council. We had lengthy
13 discussions last year on Proposal 39 and I think towards
14 the end we reached an agreement, it was more of a verbal
15 agreement, though, in terms of the language. And I just
16 wanted to point out that some of that actually dropped out
17 in the Board's adoption. Because what we had worked out is
18 -- what the Board adopted was the Council's recommendation.

19

20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Uh-huh.

21

22 MR. SIMMONS: But from the time that the
23 Council's recommendation went forth and through the Staff
24 Committee review, we worked on some language that sounded
25 acceptable to the Council relative to certain drainages
26 being exempt from blocking water-ways, which was areas that
27 people weren't subsistence fishing anyway but the land
28 managers felt a lot more comfortable about having certain
29 areas set aside where that activity wouldn't be identified
30 in regulation. It wasn't necessarily to restrict
31 subsistence use as much as from a regulatory perspective,
32 not traveling down a certain path, if you will, in terms of
33 blocking stream -- identifying streams that have migratory
34 routes on them relative to salmon and other migratory
35 species, that we wouldn't want to have language that would
36 sort of lead towards those types of proposals of blocking
37 those types of streams.

38

39 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: There's no salmon in the
40 Selawik.

41

42 MR. SIMMONS: Correct.

43

44 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: And so -- the other
45 thing I want to bring out is the point that I brought up
46 during the Board meeting, the Federal Board meeting, is
47 that, the final product that came out after the RAC meeting
48 was not presented to the RAC for comment and that's where
49 we had the difficulty. That's where we were getting into
50 discussions. Because what we had proposed, we thought, was

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1 pretty simple and straight forward and then the
2 modification came in from the Federal agencies. That's
3 where our problem is.

4

5 MR. SIMMONS: And that's why I'm here
6 today, Mr. Chair, because I think we're all learning
7 through this process. And I really think that having face-
8 to-face dialogue is the way to develop these and not
9 through exchanging paper and miscommunicating.

10

11 MS. FOX: Mr. Chair.

12

13 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Peggy, can you take the
14 mike?

15

16 MS. FOX: Yes, I will.

17

18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

19

20 MS. FOX: I would like to address the
21 Council on this subject, if I may.

22

23 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

24

25 MS. FOX: The way our process works with
26 proposals, either being developed at the Council meetings
27 or before by somebody else and then coming to the Council
28 meetings, I think it's critically important that the
29 Council is provided as much information as possible about
30 the proposal and the potential impacts of moving forward on
31 a certain proposal. Sometimes we don't think of all of
32 that while we're here discussing it. But certainly the
33 agencies have concerns in some cases and sometimes it's
34 other members of the public. You know, our interest is
35 trying to support the Council and try to move forward with
36 the concept of what they're trying to do. But often times,
37 information or concerns arise after the Council meeting.
38 And, you know, I would say, that most of the time Council
39 proposals are handled and addressed and discussion occurs
40 and they move through, once in a while, you know, issues
41 evolve where at the next stage, those concerns are brought
42 to the Staff Committee and then the Staff Committee has to
43 address them and has to make some kind of a decision about
44 what to recommend to the Board.

45

46 The way our process works, there is no
47 opportunity for that recommendation to come back to the
48 Councils. And we discussed this at the last Board meeting
49 and Mitch reaffirmed that there is not going to be another
50 opportunity for the Council to address that except at the

1 Board meeting, and that's not even the Council, that's just
2 the Chair. So, you know, what the Staff Committee is
3 committed to do is once our recommendations are made, that
4 we will feed that information back to the Councils, to
5 every member on the Council and at best, we can't authorize
6 a meeting but, you know, you are encouraged to discuss it
7 among yourselves, give the Chair the benefit of your
8 thoughts and hopefully the Chair will be talking to members
9 of the Staff Committee and trying to work something out
10 before we get to the Board meeting.

11

12 But, simply, you're not going to have an
13 opportunity to meet as a Council and make that kind of a
14 formal recommendation.

15

16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Bert.

17

18 MR. GREIST: Then we should adopt a policy
19 that if that's the case then we hold Staff Committee
20 comments and bring it forth before the Council, even after
21 the Board meeting, so that, what goes before the Board is
22 only what has gone through the RAC committee. I say that,
23 principally, because there could be potential of making an
24 impact to our very livelihood.

25

26 The process that we have in place is a very
27 fine one we just need to fine-tune it. What we probably
28 need is kind of an acid test process that whatever we've
29 finally adopted will be what the people actually live on --
30 I mean their very livelihood, the way they just are doing
31 it. I think we need a little public hearing, our final
32 product in the villages and say, okay, this is what we've
33 put -- all our information says this and this is -- it's
34 going to be the regulatory regulation and hold a short
35 public hearing and have the people most effected, the
36 opportunity to either support or amend our proposal. So I
37 think that.....

38

39 MS. FOX: There is a way to do that, Mr.
40 Chair. And simply by, if, in fact, the Staff Committee's
41 recommendation raises such concerns for the Council is to
42 defer a decision. Give it another year, give yourselves
43 the opportunity to go back, talk to people about it, at
44 your next Council meeting, in this case it would be the
45 winter meeting, at this meeting, for example, if it was
46 fisheries, get more input and then, you know, take it
47 through the process again and get it before the Board.

48

49 MR. GREIST: The process.....

50

1 MS. FOX: But it's worth waiting a year and
2 getting a good decision that is supported by the region and
3 supported by the agencies so that it lasts. And we don't
4 have to rush these things. You know, we didn't have to
5 make -- this is all hindsight, we didn't have to make a
6 decision in December, we could have entertained a
7 recommendation from the Chair to defer to give us more time
8 to talk about it. And certainly everybody would support
9 that.

10
11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Rod, you have anything
12 else?

13
14 MR. SIMMONS: No, that was it.

15
16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, we were blind-
17 sided by the Park Service, let me put it that way, that's
18 plain and simple. And that's where a lot of discussion
19 took place. So I think what Bert has talked about will
20 surely be taken into consideration if we have another
21 controversial proposal before us. But we did get blind-
22 sided here by the Staff Committee. But I'm glad it worked
23 out the way it did. Thank you, very much.

24
25 MS. FOX: Okay.

26
27 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yes.

28
29 MR. NELSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Dave
30 Nelson, National Park Service. And just as a -- or perhaps
31 provide just a little bit of clarification for the proposal
32 that you're discussing. There was considerable and I'll
33 use the term, misunderstanding, in some of the discussion
34 last year.

35
36 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: No there wasn't.

37
38 MR. NELSON: No, it.....

39
40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It was plain and simple
41 and I had my discussion with Charlie Lean.

42
43 MR. NELSON: Okay, excuse me, Mr.
44 Chairman, I was referring to the definition of the Kobuk
45 Delta. And I think, in drafting your proposal, if you
46 could define the Kobuk Delta, I believe that that would
47 make it much more simpler for the agencies to evaluate and
48 also for the Staff Committee so that we're all talking
49 about the same area.

00028

1 That was all I wanted to bring up, Mr.
2 Chair. Thank you.

3
4 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Thank you. Anybody
5 else?

6
7 MR. GREIST: Anyway, this is a good system
8 and it's definitely a wonderful change from the way
9 decisions were made, public policy decisions about the take
10 for subsistence, we just need to fine-tune it a little bit.
11 And I think that adding a little public hearing process
12 will take care of additional discussions we need.

13
14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What we could do, Bert,
15 is have our own public hearings in the villages, a short
16 one, yeah, before the Board meeting.

17
18 MR. GREIST: Yeah, before the Board meeting
19 or during -- we need.....

20
21 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Once we get the final
22 project.

23
24 MR. GREIST: Yep.

25
26 MS. FOX: Excuse me, Mr. Chair.

27
28 MS. WARD: Just the Kiana, Noorvik and
29 Selawik.....

30
31 MR. GREIST: Uh-huh.

32
33 MS. WARD:down here.

34
35 MR. GREIST: Uh-huh.

36
37 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Peggy.

38
39 MS. FOX: I need to comment that those
40 hearings have to be authorized under the Federal Advisory
41 Committee Act. And, you know, they would require Staff
42 support and they would require a certain amount of expense.
43 And it would be our response, if we were trying to hold
44 those outside of the normal round of meetings, to probably
45 not be giving that strong consideration. We would prefer
46 that, as I indicated, we simply defer a decision and take
47 the time, take the extra year, go through the Council
48 meetings as they're regularly scheduled to talk about it
49 and work it out. But not to hold additional meetings
50 because it does add a significant expense and workload,

00029

1 especially if we had 10 Councils wanting to do that and
2 that's why we hesitate, because once one Council does it,
3 everybody's going to want to do it.

4

5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What we're saying is,
6 we're not wanting to do it for every proposal.

7

8 MR. GREIST: Not for every proposal.

9

10 MS. FOX: No, I understand that.

11

12 MR. GREIST: Just the major ones.

13

14 MS. FOX: I understand. But it's like in
15 the course of a year, there is probably three or four
16 proposals that are very difficult and so I could have three
17 or four Councils coming in and saying the same thing. And
18 our.....

19

20 MR. GREIST: You could hold it here in
21 Kotzebue.

22

23 MS. FOX:budget just doesn't go that
24 far. Pardon?

25

26 MR. GREIST: You could hold the public
27 hearing in Kotzebue, is what I'm saying.

28

29 MS. FOX: But that's the purpose of this
30 process, I guess, I still want to come back to.

31

32 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

33

34 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

35

36 MS. FOX: You know, reminding you, that
37 that's the purpose of these meetings is to talk about
38 regulatory proposals, the meetings in the winter and the
39 meetings in the fall; that's your primary objective.

40

41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Do we have anymore
42 modifications to 39 that we need to discuss?

43

44 MR. GREIST: No.

45

46 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: You got it all, Helen?

47

48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I just hope so because I
49 don't -- I personally don't feel like we've resolved some
50 of the issues and that I'm afraid that we're going to leave

00030

1 this meeting and have the same problem we had last year
2 because I'm going to have -- I mean I think we should have
3 more dialogue about the issue of the Upper Selawik,
4 defining the Kobuk. We didn't get to do that in the
5 presence of the Council last year and maybe now that we're
6 together, maybe we should have that discussion here so that
7 we don't have to have it again later.

8

9 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Uh-huh.

10

11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm not sure, I don't
12 know.

13

14 MS. FOX: Helen, I don't think you're
15 getting recorded.

16

17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: What?

18

19 REPORTER: She's getting recorded but not
20 very good so when we take a break I'll move a microphone
21 over there.

22

23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: If you're satisfied, but
24 what I'm hearing you say is that we're not going to have
25 anymore discussions after this meeting, that what you
26 propose, that's it; is that correct? That you didn't like
27 it that we had the discussions last year after the meeting
28 so we're not going to do that again?

29

30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, what we're saying,
31 these modifications, we want to put them as proposals.

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

34

35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

36

37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I understand that
38 but.....

39

40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: And go through the
41 cycle.

42

43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, I understand that
44 but are we all satisfied with we're not going to define the
45 Kobuk River Delta, we're not going to define which streams,
46 we're not going to define any of that? Is everybody happy
47 with that?

48

49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, in the Selawik
50 area, I mean that's pretty clear. And the time

00031

1 modification to July 15th will take care of the Kobuk Delta
2 -- or the Kobuk River, okay. I think everybody's pretty
3 clear on that.

4
5 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

6
7 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: There's no salmon -- the
8 concern would be that the date, as I see it, from the
9 biologist that was explained to me was because of the
10 salmon in the streams that they use going up the Kobuk, was
11 the concern to the biologists, but I don't think it's going
12 to be -- because these streams are tied to lakes, you're
13 not going to be finding salmon going into them, unless you
14 find one or two for the whole summer.

15
16 Are we okay, Helen, now?

17
18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: If you're okay, I'm okay
19 on this, I hope the agency people are okay.

20
21 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, let me ask this,
22 are we going to get blind-sided by the agencies again? We
23 certainly want to keep the discussions open.

24
25 MS. FOX: Mr. Chair.

26
27 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yes.

28
29 MS. FOX: I wholeheartedly agree with your
30 last statement. We want to keep the discussions open.
31 Nobody is going to be blind-sided. As I indicated earlier,
32 when the Staff Committee finds itself addressing issues
33 that were not resolved at the Council level they're going
34 to have to address them and they're going to have to make
35 some kind of a decision on what to recommend. And as I
36 indicated, when that process is complete, you'll be the
37 first to know and then you'll have an opportunity to
38 discuss it with the Council members and you'll have an
39 opportunity to decide whether you want to move ahead or you
40 want to ask for a deferral when you get to the Board
41 meeting. But I agree, we need to find resolution and I
42 don't think it's that hard if we take the time.

43
44 MR. GREIST: It's not that hard.

45
46 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The other thing I want
47 to point out to the agencies, if you were there at the
48 Federal Board meeting, you could hear the Chair, it's over-
49 regulation on the agencies part that he's concerned with.
50 So keep that in mind. He wasn't too happy.

00032

1 Okay, let's move on or do you want to take
2 a break first? Okay, let's take 10 minutes before we go
3 on.

4

5 (Off record)

6 (On record)

7

8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, I'm going to call
9 this meeting back to order. I see we have some guests that
10 came in that were not in this morning when we had
11 introductions. Maybe if we can go around and have you
12 introduce yourselves.

13

14 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
15 I apologize for being late, Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff
16 Committee member.

17

18 MS. COCHRAN: My name is Oakley Cochran,
19 I'm from the Arctic Sounder.

20

21 MR. TOCKTOO: My name is Fred Tocktoo. I
22 work with the Subsistence Department in Nome with the
23 National Park Service.

24

25 MR. SPIRTEES: Dave Spirtes, Park Service,
26 Superintendent, Kotzebue.

27

28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. During the break,
29 I think what we will -- what I was told anyway, the process
30 will be for these modifications, is that all the comments
31 will be required by the Fish and Wildlife Service before
32 the fall meeting from all the agencies so that all of your
33 issues will be before us on the table when we talk about
34 these proposals. So that all of the issues that you're
35 concerned with, on the agency part, will be here when we
36 talk about them so that we don't get blind-sided again like
37 I said earlier by modifications to the proposals or
38 concerns by the agencies so that when it comes before the
39 RAC at the fall meeting, whatever we come out with with the
40 RAC will go to the Staff Committee as a strong
41 recommendation.

42

43 The other thing is that if it does come
44 back different from the Staff Committee then we will need,
45 of course, to try to figure out a public process to inform
46 the residents in the area of what the changes are that are
47 being proposed. Right, that's what we need to figure
48 out.....

49

50 MR. GREIST: Right.

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:if they come back
2 changed.

3
4 MR. GREIST: Right. Mr. Chairman.

5
6 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Bert.

7
8 MR. GREIST: Mr. Chairman, I agree with you
9 that when we got this Title VIII and we had these
10 discussions and the system that we operated under with the
11 State, there needed to be more involvement by the
12 subsistence users and the villages. And in this whole
13 system, when it was being discussed and deliberated in
14 ANILCA, we intended that the subsistence users and their
15 representative have a solid footing in representing the
16 subsistence interests and every time we -- that's why we
17 need to be very mindful of the process we're using.
18 Anything that goes before the Board should be afforded the
19 opportunity to go through some sort of an acid test, in
20 that, it does not affect our livelihood. You know, it
21 should be final. That's why we require that and it needs
22 to be that way.

23
24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anybody else. Okay,
25 that takes care of Item 9. Item 10 is wildlife proposal
26 review and Regional Council recommendations in Tab H, who
27 is taking this? We have some overlap issues here it looks
28 like. Helen Armstrong.

29
30 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
31 This is under Tab.....

32
33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: H.

34
35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: H, yeah, Tab G is what
36 you should have. Is that what you have? Okay, the first
37 proposals I'm going to be talking about -- well, I'm doing
38 1 and 2 and then Ken Adkisson is doing Proposal 35. And I
39 wanted to just comment that Donna Dewhurst would have been
40 here and she would have presented that proposal but she had
41 another obligation at work, and it was a great debate but
42 she wanted to send her regrets and was sorry she couldn't
43 be here. It was not her decision not to come.

44
45 Proposal 1 and 2, you'll find them
46 beginning on Page 5, the actual proposal and Page 6. These
47 were proposed by the Eastern and Western Interior Regional
48 Councils. Proposal 1 was actually Eastern Interior
49 Regional Council, and these are basically just housekeeping
50 proposals, it's nothing real heavy duty or terribly

1 significant, just some clarifications and definitions in
2 language. The proposal asks that there be definitions
3 provided in the regulations to bait, drainage and salvage,
4 that was Proposal -- well, both of them did that, Proposals
5 1 and 2, and then Proposal 1 requested that the term
6 airborne be defined and incorporated into the regulations.

7

8 The definitions that they suggested were
9 for bait; any material excluding a scent lure that is
10 placed to attract an animal by its sense of smell or taste;
11 however, those parts of legally taken animals that are not
12 required to be salvaged and which are left at the kill site
13 are not considered bait.

14

15 Drainage; the area of land drained by a
16 creek, stream, or river unless further defined in
17 regulation.

18

19 Salvage; to transport the edible meat,
20 skull, or hide, as required by regulation, of a regulated
21 animal to the location where the edible meat will be
22 consumed by humans or processed for human consumption in a
23 manner which saves or prevents the edible meat from waste,
24 and preserves the skull or hide for human use.

25

26 Additionally, the term, airborne was asked
27 to be defined.

28

29 This would apply to all of the Federal
30 public lands in the entire state so it is one that is being
31 taken to every single one of the Councils. There are a
32 couple of pages here where they describe where these words
33 have been used in the regulations and I'll just -- I'm not
34 going to go through all of those but you can read them at
35 your leisure and those will be incorporated into my
36 presentation by reference to this proposal in the book.

37

38 The effect of the proposals would be that
39 there would be no negative effect on the rural users.
40 Adopting the proposed definitions into regulations would
41 reduce the confusion between the State and Federal
42 regulations and would enhance enforcement of the Federal
43 subsistence regulations.

44

45 The conclusion from the Staff is to support
46 the proposals. There's additional, once again the repeat
47 of the definitions. And airborne is defined as transported
48 by aircraft. The justification for these proposals is that
49 the definitions would enhance the ability to enforce
50 regulations.

1 There are considerably similarities of
2 these uses of the terms in the Federal Subsistence regs as
3 well as the State hunting regs. In the case of black bear
4 baiting Federal regs require the adherence to the
5 Department of Fish and Game registration requirements so by
6 incorporating those into our regs we clarify what the
7 intent is and what the definitions are. And adopting this
8 proposal would reduce confusion. And then if you're really
9 into this you can read the whole appendix that the person
10 who wrote this provided, all the places where it occurs in
11 our regs.

12
13 That concludes my analysis.

14
15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anybody have any
16 questions? Anybody have any objections to these
17 overlapping into our region? It seems to me there's no --
18 Ida.

19
20 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
21 Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff Committee member. I just wanted
22 to caution on, although these are stated to be from Eastern
23 and Western Interior, the regulation that uses edible,
24 that's something that they have been working to eliminate
25 from the regulations. So they're meeting this next week
26 and I don't know what they're going to state about that.
27 But I just wanted you to be aware that part of the problem
28 with law enforcement in the past requested new legislation
29 that remove the word, edible meat and just say remove the
30 meat from the field, but that legislation didn't pass and
31 it's still an ongoing discussion with Eastern and Western
32 Interior.

33
34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Thank you. Bert.

35
36 MR. GREIST: You know, we make our own
37 scent lure, you know, beaver -- beaver testicle, we put
38 them in glass jars and let them ferment throughout the
39 summer and then when we're trapping we just put a little
40 stick into it and put it right on and that way the scent,
41 it's kind of like a scent bait, I guess.

42
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, it says in here
44 that any material excluding a scent lure.

45
46 MR. GREIST: Okay.

47
48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So that's not included.

49
50 MR. GREIST: Okay.

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. I don't know if
2 ADF&G is going to provide comments or if we read them for
3 them. Does anybody -- Jim, do you know if ADF&G comments,
4 are we reading them or is ADF&G reading -- say what their
5 comments are?

6
7 MR. MAGDANZ: Go ahead.

8
9 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. ADF&G comments
10 were to support this proposal. Adoption of this proposal
11 would align the current State and Federal regulations of
12 bait, drainage and salvage and reduce confusion for the
13 public. We reserve comment on a definition of airborne
14 until one is prevented for review.

15
16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So what we could do is,
17 I guess we're just saying is that -- what Ida is saying, as
18 long as there is not a definite answer to the word, edible,
19 could we reserve comment on that?

20
21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I suppose so. You can
22 comment on it, too, you can comment on your opinion on the
23 edible if you want to.

24
25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I think so.

26
27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

28
29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Because it gives them an
30 excuse to leave the meat out and let it rot and then they
31 don't have to take it in, that's what it means.....

32
33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh.

34
35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:with the word,
36 edible.

37
38 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh. You can let
39 that be part of your comments. I mean you can say that we
40 support this with the exception of the edible and provide
41 that.

42
43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anybody have any
44 comments? Is that okay, then?

45
46 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

47
48 MR. GREIST: We have a concern over the
49 word, edible, too.

00037

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Did you put that
2 in the form of a motion, I think we need a motion and have
3 you vote on it to make it official.

4
5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, the motion will be
6 to go ahead and support these proposals with the concern on
7 the word, edible. That would be the motion.

8
9 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

10
11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anyone wish to make a
12 motion?

13
14 MR. GREIST: On Proposal 1?

15
16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: 1 and 2?

17
18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: 1 and 2.

19
20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: 1 and 2, Bert.

21
22 MR. GREIST: We're doing a motion for both
23 in one motion, that's.....

24
25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Can we take them both at
26 one motion?

27
28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

29
30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, okay.

31
32 MR. GREIST: I'd like to move that we adopt
33 Proposals 1 and 2 as drafted, however, we've got concerns
34 on the wording of edible.

35
36 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second?

37
38 MS. WARD: Second.

39
40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anymore discussion.
41 Under discussion, we support then with the word.....

42
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

44
45 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

46
47 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: More discussion on the
48 motion.

49
50 MR. GREIST: Call for question.

00038

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All in favor signify by
2 saying aye.

3
4 IN UNISON: Aye.

5
6 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All opposed.

7
8 (No opposing votes)

9
10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Unanimous. Thank you,
11 Helen.

12
13 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you.

14
15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Ken Adkisson, Proposal
16 35, establish additional muskox hunt and adjust seasons and
17 allow taking of cows in Unit 22 and 23.

18
19 MR. ADKISSON: Yes, Mr. Chair and Council
20 members. Proposal 35 was submitted by the Seward Peninsula
21 Muskoxen Cooperators Group and requests adjusting harvest
22 quotas based on new muskoxen population information
23 collected in the March 2000 census and decisions made
24 during the meeting of the Muskoxen Cooperators Group in
25 August of 2000. This proposal expands harvest opportunity
26 into Units 22(B), adds new cow harvest to several units and
27 increases the overall harvest quota. I won't go through
28 the thing in detail but I'll kind of maybe just summarize
29 for you what the effects of it are.

30
31 Basically it will open up a hunt in 22(B)
32 which has been closed previously. It will open up addition
33 areas in southern 22(D) that have been closed previously
34 but that will be done largely under the State Tier II
35 program. It will establish a cow harvest beginning January
36 1st through March 15 in 22(D), 22(E) and 23 SW. The
37 projected harvest levels for cows varies in those units
38 which I'll touch on. And basically will increase
39 opportunities for subsistence users by providing additional
40 land in which to hunt, more animals to select from. It
41 liberalizes the language in the permitting so that the
42 Federal thing simply reads, one muskoxen by State or
43 Federal permit allowing the hunter to choose from either a
44 bull or a cow. Because of the changes in the language,
45 too, for the first time it will allow us actually to issue
46 permits in excess of the allowable harvest and we'll do
47 that selectively in certain subunits. That just means,
48 though, that we need to monitor the hunt more closely so
49 that it can be closed when we reach the allowable harvest
50 level. But the reason behind that was to try to increase

1 harvest levels in the villages up to the allowable harvest
2 level because I think as you all are aware of, harvest
3 success has generally been relatively low compared to the
4 allowable harvest levels for lot of reasons.

5
6 Overall the harvest level will stay the
7 same, for now it will be five percent of the population in
8 the subunits. The cow harvest level will be based in 22(D)
9 on two percent of the muskoxen population in the subunits.
10 For 23 SW and 22(E) the harvest level for cows is, as
11 proposed Federally, is three percent of the muskoxen
12 population. And what that simply does is allow people to
13 say choose from either a bull or a cow and when we hit the
14 projected harvest level of cows we close the cow season and
15 whatever remaining is there can be taken in bulls then up
16 to the five percent ceiling.

17
18 The only written comments that we received
19 were from ADF&G and I'll summarize those for you.
20 Basically the comments point out that the State Board of
21 Game, when it met in November took action on a parallel set
22 of regulations and that basically they adopted the
23 regulations with an amendment that slightly reduced the cow
24 harvest in 22(E) and 23 SW. What they did was amend their
25 regulations to reduce the projected or allowable cow
26 harvest from three percent down to two percent. Basically
27 I can kind of tell you what that means in terms of animals,
28 it means a total of potentially seven cows. A reduction
29 from potentially seven in Unit 23SW down to five and down
30 in Unit 22(E) from 14 down to 9. It doesn't change the
31 overall allowable harvest which remains at five percent.

32
33 The State basically, in their comments,
34 supports the Federal proposal and recognizes that
35 maintaining a three percent potential cow harvest on
36 Federal lands will probably not significantly alter the
37 growth rate of the muskox population and is not, in that
38 sense, a real concern. But they do encourage the Federal
39 agencies to continue working closely with the State in
40 order to monitor the cow harvest, communicate with the
41 State so that when we hit the State's threshold of two
42 percent, the State can go ahead and close its cow harvest.
43 What that means is, that, when we hit the two percent in
44 the subunit, the State will close its cow harvest and those
45 people having Federal permits can continue to harvest cows
46 on Federal public lands up to the Federal proposal of three
47 percent. As I say they supported the Federal proposal with
48 that note.

49
50 The preliminary Staff analysis was to

00040

1 support the proposal and the Staff Committee's
2 recommendation was to support the proposal.

3

4 MR. GREIST: Is the annual growth around 14
5 percent?

6

7 MR. ADKISSON: Yes, on the average it's
8 running about 14 percent.

9

10 MR. GREIST: Yes.

11

12 MR. ADKISSON: And there's a graph of that
13 in your materials, in your book.

14

15 MR. GREIST: Okay.

16

17 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: In discussions with the
18 Park Service, I generally left it up to the people in
19 Buckland and Deering to make specific recommendations since
20 it's their area that's being affected by these proposals.

21

22 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

23

24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So I've relied on them
25 to help make the decision to the working group.

26

27 MR. GREIST: Okay.

28

29 MR. ADKISSON: Maybe I could add something
30 to that, Mr. Chair. This isn't directly communicated in
31 the proposal so I may be going outside what Donna would do
32 but it's something I would probably touch on later were I
33 to address you from the cooperators point of view. We did
34 have a number of teleconferences and so forth with
35 Shishmaref and Wales on their views of the State's
36 reduction and they made it very clear, after some lengthy
37 discussions, that they wanted to retain the three percent
38 Federal harvest level. Unfortunately, we weren't able to
39 do the same with Buckland and Deering. But when we left
40 the cooperators meeting in August, the consensus was at
41 that point, they were comfortable with the three percent,
42 so I would imagine that they are probably willing to go
43 with it and wouldn't change their views either.

44

45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any other comments.

46

47 MR. GREIST: I'd like to see them grow.

48

49 MR. ADKISSON: I'm sorry, what Bert?

50

1 MR. GREIST: I said I'd like to see it
2 grow.

3
4 MR. ADKISSON: Well, that was the overall
5 consensus of the cooperators and especially Buckland and
6 Deering. The Shishmaref and Wales folks in 22(E), they
7 probably have more animals and their having more problems
8 close to their camps and things and I think there's still a
9 strong feeling that they would like to see, maybe, the
10 population capped at the 2000 population level. And
11 originally Buckland and Deering supported that but then
12 they went home and thought about it overnight and came back
13 in the next day at the meeting and changed and so the whole
14 thing really was, you know, it was a consensus result, but
15 it's an issue that I think, you know, we can all live with
16 for now, especially Wales and Shishmaref, I think, would
17 like to revisit the harvest levels in the future.

18
19 Additionally, when the State Board
20 of Game established the Tier II harvest level, they put the
21 subsistence need at a hundred animals and we're fast
22 approaching that so the next big issue that we'll confront,
23 you know, muskoxen management will be, how do we move from
24 the State side out of Tier II and into Tier I and that will
25 be a big challenge. And, of course, on the Federal side,
26 it's how can we continue to cooperate in this process so
27 that the interests of the Federally eligible subsistence
28 users are protected in that process.

29
30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So you need a motion to
31 go ahead support the proposal?

32
33 MR. ADKISSON: That would be the ideal
34 thing, I think.
35 Yeah, the Staff Committee supports it and, of course, the
36 Seward Penn Council will be looking at it later in the
37 month. But from discussions with Grace and so forth, you
38 know, I think they will also -- the one issue for everybody
39 was, do we want to adjust, on the Federal side, adjust our
40 harvest level of cows down to the two percent, and I think
41 the answer that came out, at least the villages that we had
42 talked to, and the indications from the Coop meeting were
43 that we want to stay with what's here and the State seems
44 comfortable to be able to live with that for now, providing
45 that, you know, they encourage us to work closely with them
46 so that their harvest level isn't allowed to bust their
47 threshold.

48
49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, any other
50 questions? So a motion is in order to take action on

00042

1 Proposal 35.

2

3 MR. GREIST: I wish Percy was here.

4

5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, you had
6 discussions with Percy on this here, uh, Percy and.....

7

8 MR. ADKISSON: Actually we did early
9 on.....

10

11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

12

13 MR. ADKISSON:but not after the Board
14 of Game meeting because we couldn't get ahold of him, we
15 tried several times. But Percy did attend the coop meeting
16 as did James Motto, Jr., from Deering.

17

18 MR. GREIST: Oh, okay.

19

20 MR. ADKISSON: And also you'll recall that
21 basically it's essentially the same thing we discussed at
22 the previous RAC meeting, you know, and so I think we're
23 all comfortable with maintaining the position.

24

25 MR. GREIST: So then the net effect will be
26 it's going from three percent harvest level down to two?

27

28 MR. ADKISSON: No, the net effect will be
29 for 22(E) and 23SW.....

30

31 MR. GREIST: Oh.

32

33 MR. ADKISSON:the allowable cow
34 harvest on State lands went from three percent to two
35 percent.....

36

37 MR. GREIST: Oh, okay.,

38

39 MR. ADKISSON:and remained at three
40 percent on Federal lands.

41

42 MR. GREIST: On Federal, oh, okay.

43

44 MR. ADKISSON: And the overall threshold of
45 all animals.....

46

47 MR. GREIST: Yeah, okay.

48

49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

50

00043

1 MR. ADKISSON:will stay five.

2

3 MR. GREIST: Mr. Chairman, I move that we
4 support the passage of Proposal 35.

5

6 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second?

7

8 MS. WARD: Second.

9

10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anymore discussions or
11 questions?

12

13 MS. WARD: Question.

14

15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All in favor of the
16 motion to support Proposal 35 signify by saying aye.

17

18 IN UNISON: Aye.

19

20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Opposed.

21

22 (No opposing votes)

23

24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Unanimous. Thank you.

25

26 MR. ADKISSON: You're welcome. Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The floor is still open
29 for any proposals that anyone wishes to make on any issue.
30 Would you like to come before us Mr. Thompson? Robert?

31

32 MR. THOMPSON: (Nods negatively).

33

34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: No. Okay. Item 11,
35 agency reports. 11A, Fish and Wildlife Service,
36 partnerships for fisheries monitoring will be by Peggy?

37

38 MS. FOX: Yes. I have a handout here and I
39 just want to get these around before I begin. Thank you,
40 Mr. Chair.

41

42 I wanted to tell you about our partnerships
43 and fisheries monitoring program. This program is part of
44 the Fisheries Resource Monitoring effort. As you are well
45 aware, we have a number of projects that we are able to
46 fund every year to address subsistence issues and
47 information needs. And as a part of that, a component is
48 our interest in establishing some specific positions around
49 the state that will be under contract with native and other
50 rural organizations and they will be tasked with helping us

1 with monitoring the projects, but primarily to help us
2 assure that there's local involvement in fisheries resource
3 monitoring and communication on subsistence issues. So
4 you'll see here that our intent is to fund field staff to
5 assist with project development, they can also advise
6 people on how to prepare a proposal, for example, an
7 investigation plan and get those submitted so they're
8 effective, they can help with the identification of
9 subsistence issues, do community outreach and education
10 about our program, provide training locally for people to
11 further develop their expertise and participation in the
12 program.

13
14 And our goal is to have nine such positions
15 around the state. We're proposing six of those be
16 fisheries biologists and three of those be social-
17 scientists who would -- the social-scientists would focus
18 on those projects that have to do with harvest monitoring
19 and traditional ecological knowledge. Working with
20 communities and project proponents that have proposals in
21 that area. And of course, the fisheries biologists will be
22 focused on the particular fisheries projects.

23
24 The areas that they would be assigned are
25 listed there and they're pretty much the same as the
26 fisheries region, so for this area it would be Arctic
27 Kotzebue, Norton Sound, there would be one fishery
28 biologist identified and share a social-scientist with
29 other areas.

30
31 The status of this right now is that we
32 will probably be able to move forward with at least seven
33 initially. We're going to be putting out requests for
34 proposals, we're anticipating organizations to develop a
35 proposal as to how they would do this and we will give them
36 certain criteria to address and then submit that sometime
37 during the summer. The first step in the process, however,
38 is one we're going in right now, which is government-to-
39 government consultation with the tribes. We sent a letter
40 out to every one of the tribes asking them to offer us
41 comments on this proposed program and we'll see if that
42 results in any needed modifications based on their advice.
43 Their comments are due March 15th. Those of you that may
44 be associated with a tribe may be interested in following
45 up on that.

46
47 What we're expecting is that some time this
48 fall is when we would actually issue the cooperative
49 agreements and begin the process of providing funds to the
50 successful organizations to hire and we're looking at

00045

1 people, probably, who have degrees in fisheries and degrees
2 in anthropology or some aspect of social-science to be able
3 to lead this type of effort within a region. Part of the
4 proposal, I don't think it got in here, is to annually have
5 a summer intern work with the position and get some added
6 benefits with developing rural capacity along those lines.

7

8 That concludes my briefing and then we'll
9 see if there is any questions.

10

11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So there would be one
12 organization from the Arctic, Kotzebue and Norton Sound
13 area?

14

15 MS. FOX: Yes, that's true.

16

17 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: To oversee all three
18 areas?

19

20 MS. FOX: Yes. And what we're looking for
21 is proposals that will come forward with support of the
22 appropriate organizations within that region. It requires
23 that people work together on a proposal.

24

25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So you would ask for
26 support from our RAC here?

27

28 MS. FOX: No, we're looking for the
29 organizations.....

30

31 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I realize that.

32

33 MS. FOX:in the region.

34

35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I realize that. What
36 I'm saying is, somebody proposes to do it from the Norton
37 Sound area, when would we have a chance to comment on it?

38

39 MS. FOX: I don't think it was envisioned
40 that we would bring it back before the Council.

41

42 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Um.

43

44 MS. FOX: It's a contracting-type
45 opportunity and I guess each proposal would be evaluated on
46 its own merits. Those proposals that will be successful
47 will be the ones that show support from the organizations
48 within that region.

49

50 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

00046

1 MS. FOX: However, as this thing
2 progresses, you will be briefed, you know.

3
4 MR. GREIST: Mr. Chairman.

5
6 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Bert.

7
8 MR. GREIST: On the, you'll hire fisheries
9 biologists and social scientists, you probably should
10 include an active subsistence user as part of -- not only
11 social-scientist, but within the scheme of the whole frame
12 work, somebody that you could -- that could provide
13 probably valuable information you could possibly get.
14 Especially a local, you know, subsistence user and -- could
15 be a sounding board instead of just a social-scientist,
16 somebody that really knows and is active.

17
18 MS. FOX: Okay. Any other comments or
19 suggestions?

20
21 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: That would go a long
22 way, what Bert's suggestion is.

23
24 MS. FOX: Uh-huh, that that be a criteria
25 for.....

26
27 MR. GREIST: Yes.

28
29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Right.

30
31 MS. FOX:the selection. Any others?

32
33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anybody have any
34 questions or comments?

35
36 MS. FOX: Okay. Well, I'll take your
37 comments back and we'll pull them together and see what the
38 tribes say and then give you a report.

39
40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Thank you. Item 2, the
41 2001 Fisheries Monitoring Plan update, Richard Uberuaga.

42
43 MR. UBERUAGA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

44
45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Did I pronounce that the
46 right way?

47
48 MR. UBERUAGA: Uberuaga.

49
50 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Uberuaga.

1 MR. UBERUAGA: The English pronunciation.
2 First of all I wanted to express Steve Klein's sincere
3 apologies for not being able to attend today. He indicated
4 that he really wanted to come here but he's just got so
5 much going on trying to administer this program that he
6 couldn't make it today but he really wanted to be here.

7
8 I'm going to cover three topics today, the
9 2001 Fisheries Monitoring Plan update and the 2002 proposed
10 proposals which have been submitted, and the request for
11 information and issues from you. First I'm going to give
12 you a handout on these 2001 projects.

13
14 This is 2001 Fisheries Monitoring Plan
15 updates that lists the projects that have been selected by
16 the Federal Subsistence Board and recommended by your
17 Regional Council. These plans have been approved recently
18 by the Federal Board for funding in 2001. As you can see
19 it covers the Arctic, Kotzebue and North Slope areas. For
20 this area, we've got the Northwest dolly varden, arctic
21 char genetics studies and the spawning stock assessments,
22 which I'm sure you're all familiar with. And under the
23 harvest monitoring and traditional ecological knowledge
24 portion of the program, we have the one fish, two fish, red
25 fish, blue fish, an ethnography of fishing on the Kobuk
26 River, which I think you're, again, familiar with. Those
27 projects will be continuing this summer starting with this
28 field season so you'll be hearing about these as they go
29 along and we get some progress reports back.

30
31 Are there any questions on the 2001
32 projects?

33
34 The next portion I would present to you are
35 on the 2002 proposals for study, which you'll find also
36 very interesting. These are project proposals submitted
37 and accepted for further studies, where investigation plans
38 will be developed for them in the next few months. As you
39 can see it covers all three areas and there are some
40 projects on here specific to your areas, specifically, the
41 Kobuk River studies on sheefish. The proposal that was
42 submitted last year for 2001 funding but was not accepted
43 due to availability of funds, so that project is being
44 resubmitted again for 2002, and an investigation plan will
45 be prepared and evaluated. As you remember, the technical
46 review committee did approve that project in the past.

47
48 Also you've got the Noatak fishing counting
49 sonar. And I see Project 204, which is traditional
50 knowledge of whitefish in Kotzebue Sound on here also.

1 That's the extent of my knowledge about
2 these particular projects. Again, the investigation plan
3 will be developed in the next few months and the projects
4 will be evaluated as to how their investigation plans are
5 prepared.

6
7 Are there any questions on the 2002
8 projects that you have before you?

9
10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, the beaver dam,
11 where are we going to stick that in?

12
13 MR. UBERUAGA: A future proposal for
14 investigations of beaver, whitefish interaction would come
15 in the next proposal period, FIS project proposal period
16 which would be beyond 2002, so next year that period will
17 open up for proposals in 2003. The third part of what I've
18 got to present to you today is very important in addressing
19 that. And that is a request for your issues and
20 information needs.

21
22 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: We had made this request
23 a year ago on the beaver dams.

24
25 MR. UBERUAGA: Right. I realize that.

26
27 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Ida, there's a mike
28 right here.

29
30 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
31 Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff Committee member. I'm not quite
32 familiar with if it's just beaver dam or if it's a beaver,
33 whitefish interaction project, and there were several
34 requests on the first year of proposals and there was one
35 sort of a pilot project that had been funded and they're
36 waiting for the results of that, to get those results back
37 to the Councils to see if the methods used are workable and
38 if they could use those same things in different regions
39 and they just haven't finished the conclusion of that
40 project yet. So it isn't forgotten. It was agreed after
41 the first year that they would check this pilot project to
42 see if it works and then to see if it would work elsewhere.

43
44 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Jim.

45
46 MR. MAGDANZ: Jim Magdanz, Fish and Game
47 Subsistence. The traditional knowledge of whitefish in
48 Kotzebue Sound is a traditional ecological knowledge
49 project. It does not look at the biology questions about
50 beaver and whitefish but it is intended to document

1 traditional knowledge about whitefish in the whole sphere
2 of human activity around whitefish and I fully expect
3 there'll be interviews in that project that address the
4 beaver issue. The project was developed by Susan Georgette
5 and Enoch Shiedt at Maniilaq and LeeAnne Ayres and her
6 staff at Selawik National Refuge.

7

8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

9

10 MR. UBERUAGA: And we understand that this
11 has been an issue a long time. What I would like to ask
12 of the Council today is further identification of your
13 ongoing issues and priorities. So what I'm going to pass
14 out to you is a request for your issues and priorities to
15 be sent back to us, again, so we can use this information
16 in the long-term research planning and monitoring planning.
17 We want to address your issues and your priorities. And
18 this will help us keep in mind whenever a proposal, a
19 monitoring proposal comes to us of how that proposal
20 relates to your priorities. So I would urge you to, again,
21 I know you've indicated your priorities in the past but
22 again this will help lay the foundation for the long-term
23 2003 and beyond and keeping us focused on what Councils
24 priorities really are. So whitefish and beaver, I think is
25 probably one of your top priorities. What it asks for are
26 specific areas and specific streams where your priorities
27 occur.

28

29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Barb, can we get this to
30 the IRA's, traditional governments in the region.....

31

32 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

33

34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:as a start.

35

36 MR. GREIST: I think.....

37

38 MR. B. ARMSTRONG: In the region?

39

40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

41

42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

43

44 MR. GREIST: You know, like not only
45 whitefish, burbot. Like in Selawik, we used to put fish
46 traps right on Fish Creek, Noatak Selawik and we used to
47 get like 200 -- up to 200 a night with fish traps, all
48 burbot, but they're not there no more, because there's four
49 beaver dams right along that creek and they quite going up
50 and spawn.

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1 There's an area southeast of Selawik, the
2 population of pike, sheefish, whitefish and burbot are down
3 -- way, way, down. The Mitchell family that traditionally
4 go there for fall harvesting and they use that area for
5 camp they quit going there because the numbers aren't there
6 anymore.

7
8 MR. UBERUAGA: Well, I think identifying
9 burbot, in addition to whitefish, not necessarily together,
10 is important as an issue and priority for you. I don't
11 want to put words into your mouth, but I think information
12 like that is very important for us to keep in mind when new
13 research projects come up.

14
15 With that, that's all I have. I do have
16 specific information on all the 2001 projects and I know
17 you've had a chance to look at before, but if you have any
18 specific questions I can answer them on individual projects
19 later.

20
21 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, we looked at them
22 in Anchorage.

23
24 MR. UBERUAGA: Yeah.

25
26 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: At that meeting in
27 Anchorage.

28
29 MR. UBERUAGA: Yeah. That's all I have.

30
31 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any other questions?
32 Thank you.

33
34 MR. UBERUAGA: Yeah.

35
36 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Rod.

37
38 MR. SIMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Rod
39 Simmons, Fish and Wildlife Service. I just wanted to give
40 you an update on the sheefish hooking mortality study that
41 was not passed by the Board due to -- mainly because of
42 funding constraints. I realize it's still an issue for the
43 Council.

44
45 I had our fisheries division contact Alaska
46 Department of Fish and Game Sportfish Division to make them
47 another aware of another funding source for that project
48 and that's another Federal program specifically toward
49 sportfishing funding on a national level and there's like
50 1.5 million dollars available nationally in that fund, it's

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1 called the DJ or Dingle Johnson Fund, which is reverted
2 money from sportfish licenses. This project seemed to fit
3 well into that funding potential so whether or not they
4 carried forth with a proposal, I don't know. But we were
5 certainly encouraging them last week because the deadline
6 was approaching.

7

8 Our recommendation was to partner-up
9 Sportfish Division with the University of Alaska-Fairbanks
10 Cooperative Fish Unit and put together a project related to
11 hooking morality on sheefish. So I just wanted to give you
12 an update that there are other funding opportunities out
13 there besides the Subsistence Monitoring Program that can
14 possibly address some of your questions and concerns.

15

16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any questions?

17

18 MR. GREIST: No.

19

20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What's the deadline on
21 these monitoring programs?

22

23 MR. UBERUAGA: The issues and needs?

24

25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

26

27 MR. UBERUAGA: I think -- I believe,
28 doesn't it say on there the date, down at the bottom. We'd
29 like to get those at any time.

30

31 MR. GREIST: Okay.

32

33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

34

35 MR. UBERUAGA: I mean those would help
36 prioritize projects for 2003.

37

38 MR. GREIST: 2003, okay.

39

40 MR. UBERUAGA: But, you know, we would like
41 those any time you can come up with them.

42

43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Statewide rural
44 determination process. Peggy.

45

46 MS. FOX: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I guess
47 I'll start by just reminding the Council that last summer
48 the Board directed us to seek a third party, an independent
49 organization to help us with reviewing and developing a new
50 methodology to make rural determinations. And I guess

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1 maybe backing up a little bit as well, indicating that
2 we're supposed to do this, by our regulations once every 10
3 years with the new census so that's why we're doing it now.
4

5 There's not a lot to report as of today,
6 we're still working on developing the contract. But that
7 contract should be advertised within the next two to three
8 months.
9

10 I did want to let you know that what you
11 have to look forward to in this process and that is, first
12 of all, the three Council chairs that have been identified
13 to work with the Board on a regular basis relative to
14 fisheries issues have also been tasked with helping to
15 track the statewide rural determination process. And at
16 this time that includes Willie Goodwin and Gerald Nicholia
17 has replaced Ronald Sam and the third one is Dan O'Hara.
18 About a year from now at your winter meetings you should be
19 able to make comments and recommendations on the
20 methodology that the contractor has come up with. And that
21 will be, I think, a very important time for the Council to
22 weigh in on how you think we're going to -- how effective
23 you think that methodology is going to be in helping us to
24 identify rural communities and non-rural communities.
25

26 And then we're anticipating that in fall of
27 2002, about a year and a half from now, you would be
28 looking at the proposed changes, if there are any, to the
29 rural and non-rural determinations and providing
30 recommendations to the Board on that. So about by the end
31 of 2002, we should have new rural, non-rural determinations
32 in place or if there are no changes, it will reaffirm the
33 ones that we have for the next decade.
34

35 Are there any questions?
36

37 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Does anybody have any
38 questions for Peggy?
39

40 MR. GREIST: No.
41

42 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So the process is just
43 moving forward then?
44

45 MS. FOX: Right.
46

47 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Right.
48

49 MR. GREIST: Very rural.
50

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: And the big issue is
2 Kenai.

3
4 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

5
6 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: And Eklutna. Anybody
7 have any questions of Peggy? Thank you.

8
9 MS. FOX: Okay, since I have the next
10 subject.....

11
12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Oh, yeah, you still got
13 the floor.

14
15 MS. FOX: I'm still here.

16
17 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: In-season delegation.

18
19 MS. FOX: Thank you. The Board took action
20 on extending the delegations to in-season managers last
21 Monday. And what that means is last year we gave
22 delegations for area and time, opening and closings of
23 fisheries to selected managers across the state. This year
24 we're going to be expanding that delegation to include the
25 same level of authority that the State Fish and Game
26 biologists have when they issue emergency orders.
27 Obviously the intent there is to give our managers the same
28 flexibility to respond very quickly to the conditions as
29 they change and be able to equally look at and protect the
30 subsistence priority, without having to take the time to go
31 through the Board, which is a several day process. So we
32 feel that this gives them adequate tools to be able to
33 respond to changes in fisheries and protect the subsistence
34 needs.

35
36 Any questions? Okay, thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Selawik Refuge, LeeAnne
39 Ayres

40
41 MS. AYRES: I think maybe the best way is
42 to go through the packet that Barb handed out. There's
43 mainly three things I guess I was asked to come here and
44 touch on with you. First was an update on the user issues
45 in the Selawik. Following last fall, I think at our last
46 fall meeting we talked about it. Jimmy Fox and Joanna
47 Roberts went to Selawik and basically went door-to-door to
48 talk to people about issues and hunting issues on the
49 refuge there was on the top of the list. So I think they
50 pretty much heard a lot of the concerns that local people

1 had about what was going on and we're still in the process
2 of trying to come up with the best way of addressing that.

3

4 In Leslie's letter there to you all, she
5 brings up kind of two events that are slowing us down a
6 little bit as far as our hopes as having something done and
7 in place this winter. The first is the delay on the Katie
8 John decision over navigable water. And the second is the
9 compatibility determinations that the Refuge is looking
10 into doing. They're new regulations and it appears that
11 the Regional Office doesn't want all of the refuges to be
12 going out and doing these immediately. So we're basically
13 kind of on hold for those two things. And Leslie is, in
14 her letter, plans on getting back with you or having
15 something more concrete at the end of April.

16

17 So any questions on that? Then there's
18 also the summary of the air taxi transporter activity and
19 the number of parties and citations and warnings. With the
20 addition of one new operator, the number of hunters
21 dramatically increased on the Refuge this year.

22

23 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Clarify this, permits
24 will be denied if the request has any wildlife violations;
25 would that include operating without a permit?

26

27 MS. AYRES: No. That -- it would be if
28 they were operating without a State transporter permit and
29 under the State regulations they're required to have one,
30 that would be an example of one. It's Fish and Game
31 violations under State statute is what my understanding is
32 that those refer to.

33

34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What I was asking,
35 Mavrick Air.

36

37 MS. AYRES: Wanton waste? It wouldn't --
38 if he had a waste violation or if he was operating without
39 a transporter's license sometime in the past five years and
40 was cited for that, it would.

41

42 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

43

44 MS. AYRES: Okay, I guess the next issue
45 and I was hoping that Enoch would be here because he's kind
46 of a lead on it and that has to do with white-fronted geese
47 in our area. That was another thing people in Selawik
48 mentioned to Jimmy and Joanna, was that they had noticed a
49 decline in white-fronts in that area. I don't know if
50 you've seen that, too, Bert, if you get out much.

1 What the Service is concerned about is
2 elders down in the Koyukuk area have noticed a decline in
3 white-fronts in their area and we basically share the
4 population of white-fronts that are down there and up here.
5 And what appears to be happening is they're the first birds
6 that come up, you know, they're the earliest ones so they
7 get fairly heavily harvested here when they come through.
8 But the real clincher is that these birds, when they enter
9 the fly-away, they're the first ones that head south and
10 they're ending up in Canada right on Canada's opening day.
11 So although the overall population of white-fronts is doing
12 well, this local population may be getting kind of hammered
13 a little harder than everybody else.

14
15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, not by us?

16
17 MS. AYRES: Not necessarily by us and not
18 necessarily by Canada, but the combined. And that's one
19 theory that they're thinking is happening. Now, there
20 could be other factors, you know, environmental factors,
21 habitat factors that were -- but this one is kind of is
22 making the most sense because of the timing of their
23 migration and movements and the band returns are kind of
24 supporting this idea, too. But anyway, it's something that
25 in just the last year or two, some of the transects, and
26 Mike Spindler, who was a biologist up here earlier, that's
27 now down in Galena has been watching the population and
28 talking to people. So he's kind of asking us to put a
29 little extra effort into our population work during the
30 summer and fall and talk to people about it, see what
31 they're seeing, see what they're noticing. So anyway,
32 that's kind of one of our issues.

33
34 The other one, Enoch, was tasked with being
35 a representative on the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-management
36 Council.

37
38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: He's got that
39 appointment now, he's in it?

40
41 MS. AYRES: I guess I was going to tell you
42 he was tasked with it and he pulled in, oh, it must have
43 been about 15 or 20 people from villages all over the
44 region.

45
46 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Uh-huh.

47
48 MS. AYRES: To explain to them about what
49 the process was going to be for migratory bird regulations
50 and what this Council was going to do and to open up the

1 possibility if anybody else wanted to be the representative
2 on it. And the Fish and Wildlife Service also came and
3 kind of gave an explanation of how the regulatory process
4 was going to be implemented. At that meeting, the group
5 elected Enoch as the representative so he is the official
6 representative.

7

8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

9

10 MS. AYRES: And I guess I just wanted to
11 really give a hats-off to Enoch for doing just a superb job
12 at bringing in a lot of really good folks that were really
13 -- you know, people who were out in the field, who were
14 really concerned about the resources and he just
15 facilitated a good meeting and I think he'll be an
16 excellent representative for folks around here in the
17 process. He certainly took to heart everybody's comments
18 and concerns. So anyway, so I think he'll be the one to
19 stay in touch with on that issue up here and I think he'll
20 probably be updating you on what's going to be happening as
21 far as timing of regulations.

22

23 So in your packet there, I think, is kind
24 of the background on white-fronts and also on that process.

25

26 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: They believe that was
27 (In Native) because years ago they used to get them with
28 snares.....

29

30 MS. AYRES: Uh-huh.

31

32 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:and these are the
33 ones that chewed the snares and escape and that's why
34 they're named that.

35

36 MS. WARD: Are they all white or.....

37

38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: (In Native).....

39

40 MS. WARD:we got (In Native) up
41 river.

42

43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: (In Native).

44

45 MR. GREIST: Yeah, that's only in the
46 Noatak.

47

48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: They're the ones with
49 the orange feet.

50

1 MS. WARD: Okay.

2

3 MR. GREIST: Call them by their Eskimo
4 name.

5

6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's how I can
7 recognize.....

8

9 MS. AYRES: That was something that was
10 really apparent at the meeting, was the difficulty that the
11 agency had in talking about birds, of knowing which birds
12 people were talking about.

13

14 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

15

16 MS. AYRES: I think it's going to be a
17 challenge but I think it will be the first thing that we'll
18 need to figure out a way of either the agencies using the
19 local names or pictures and even between the villages there
20 was a little bit of difference of trying to figure out
21 which birds are ducks or eiders or which. So we might be
22 coming to you with some questions of how to deal with that
23 better.

24

25 The last thing I wanted to bring up and I
26 guess it didn't make it in your packet, but we had talked
27 about this a little bit earlier, Willie, was the priority
28 issues that the Northwest Alaska Ecosystem Team had
29 identified. And I apologize, I gave it to Barb late in the
30 game so it's my fault it didn't make it in.

31

32 What this is, is it's a group of agency
33 people who are -- and mainly Fish and Wildlife Service,
34 that are trying to identify priority issues in regions that
35 are issues that are affecting resources that aren't
36 necessarily on the Refuge itself. The point is to try and
37 get us thinking a little bit broader than just, you know, a
38 project by project basis. I'm on this team and I guess I'm
39 looking at it as a way of a kind of guiding document or
40 ideas for developing programs and projects.

41

42 Some of the topics that are on it are
43 things like mineral development was an issue, contaminants
44 in subsistence foods was another, increasing human use in
45 the area. Those were the types of topics that have come
46 out. What I have done with that is gone around to other
47 agencies and other organizations and basically asked them,
48 you know, what does this list look like to you? Have we
49 missed anything? What is your highest priority? What are
50 projects that already going on? So I'm about halfway

1 through my wish list of people to talk to. I've talked
2 with the borough, the Kotzebue IRA, some folks on the
3 Selawik IRA, BLM and the Park Service, but there's still a
4 few more folks that I need to get around to and get their
5 input. And it's been good. I've learned about a lot of
6 projects that have been going on in the region that I
7 wasn't aware of before. So I think this might be a way of
8 helping the Refuge kind of get a focus that's in line with
9 what people want to see done up here and also hopefully to
10 avoid duplication of projects and provide funding for ones
11 that are ongoing that are being down with more expertise
12 than we have.

13
14 I guess the last two project comments; is
15 one with the whitefish, beaver issue. I just want to kind
16 of reiterate what Jim Magdanz said and that the project
17 that's in there now for whitefish traditional knowledge
18 study is kind of what I was looking at as the first thing
19 we need to do before developing other projects, was to hear
20 from local folks what the issue was and where it was. I
21 think that will really help us come up with a better
22 project and maybe a better approach that we can talk about
23 in dealing with the beaver issue.

24
25 The other thing is that there was a long
26 list of different projects and I think we felt fairly
27 strongly that the first project should have to do with
28 talking to people and finding out what people already know
29 up here so that's why the Refuge kind of decided to put our
30 support behind Susan's project and try and make sure we can
31 see that go first.

32
33 So we hope to work with you in 2002 on
34 other projects and especially hearing how the Yukon project
35 does.

36
37 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Bert.

38
39 MR. GREIST: You know, where we got kind of
40 concerned about the potential impacts that transportation
41 route that is being considered going from Kobuk and it --
42 the Kobuk area and then it goes down to the Selawik Refuge
43 and goes towards Nome.

44
45 MS. AYRES: Uh-huh.

46
47 MR. GREIST: In the past we had always
48 talked about if Nome wants railroad or road into it that it
49 go from down further because our concern was it's potential
50 impact to the caribou migratory route, principally, and

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1 that's why we've always opposed any transportation route
2 going that route. And the Nome area, transportation route
3 should be borne out and located in that area.

4

5 MS. AYRES: Yeah. I guess talking with --
6 well, with Ross Schaeffer at the Borough after the DOT
7 meetings.....

8

9 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

10

11 MS. AYRES:his feeling was that the
12 likeli -- that there was -- the strongest possibility was
13 the port side tie-in, you know, for the Kobuk. But it's
14 just really clear that these issues are coming back up.
15 These old dusty maps that were done, and I don't know if
16 Willie remembers.....

17

18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: 30 years ago.

19

20 MS. AYRES:are being done.

21

22 MR. GREIST: Well, what study.....

23

24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Even Chicago Creek.....

25

26 MR. GREIST: Speckety.....

27

28 MS. AYRES: Yeah.

29

30 MR. GREIST:Speckety Spider.....

31

32 MS. AYRES: Yeah, and we need to address
33 some of those.

34

35 MR. GREIST:land there.

36

37 MS. AYRES: Or at least have the baseline
38 data so that we can if things come up.

39

40 MR. GREIST: And then the other issue is,
41 it's kind of a growing thing. We've got transporter issues
42 beginning to crop up in the Selawik area. I think guides
43 have catapulted into that area from other areas that are
44 becoming more restrictive or blah, blah, you know, Noatak
45 and they're beginning to look at Selawik Refuge, you know,
46 and I think it's growing faster than.....

47

48 MS. AYRES: Than we can respond to.

49

50 MR. GREIST:what we can respond to.

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1 MS. AYRES: Yeah.

2

3 MR. AREY: Did you see that.

4

5 MR. GREIST: Oh, okay.

6

7 MR. AREY: There's a letter.

8

9 MR. GREIST: Oh, okay.

10

11 MS. AYRES: I guess the last upcoming
12 project for me here was the moose census in the Tag. We're
13 going to try and get some baseline data pretty much in that
14 area that is receiving a lot of the harvest. And hopefully
15 if weather and planes cooperate, we'll have that done this
16 month.

17

18 That's it.

19

20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any questions? The only
21 comment I have is under TEK, you know, that was a lot of
22 good to get it, it puts us back a year in trying to
23 get.....

24

25 MS. AYRES: Yeah, it's tough. It's a slow
26 process.

27

28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: But I guess we can do
29 them both at the same time, uh?

30

31 MS. AYRES: Well, we certainly don't have
32 to wait for one to be finished.....

33

34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

35

36 MS. AYRES:before starting the
37 proposal process. And that might be something of just
38 getting another proposal in the hopper so it does start
39 meeting the deadlines.

40

41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. You know what I
42 think we ought to do, I think we ought to break for lunch
43 and come back at 1:00 and then finish up, how does that
44 sound?

45

46 MR. GREIST: That sounds good.

47

48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, we'll be back at
49 1:00 and finish up.

50

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1 (Off record)

2 (On record)

3

4 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: We'll call this meeting
5 back to order. The next item on the agenda is the Western
6 Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group report by Dave Spirtes.
7 You working for Fish and Game now or who's going to give
8 it?

9

10 MR. SPIRTEs: I guess Jim Dau and I were
11 going to tag team it.

12

13 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Jim and Dave, and
14 a handout. Joe Ballot, the Chair of the caribou working
15 group expresses his regrets that he couldn't be here. As
16 many of you know, for about five years we've been involved
17 in agencies and citizens have been trying to get together
18 and develop a plan for managing the Western Arctic Caribou
19 Herd. And it really took a different turn about a year
20 ago. Last January we met in Nome and at that meeting it
21 was basically decided the agency folks were basically made
22 staff to the group and a group of 20 local representatives
23 were selected to really decide how to go forward with the
24 planning effort. And the local representatives on that
25 group include Raymond Hawley and Raymond Stoney and Frank
26 Commack, Victor Karmun and.....

27

28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: But wasn't he replaced
29 by Enoch Shiedt at that last meeting, I believe he was.

30

31 MR. SPIRTEs: Excuse me, you're right.

32

33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, he took Victor's
34 place.

35

36 MR. DAU: Yeah.

37

38 MR. SPIRTEs: Yeah, I'm sorry. And you
39 know, there's other people Phil Driver is on it and Rose
40 Fosdet from the Reindeer Association, Roy Aschenfelder, so
41 there's a number of local people intended to really work on
42 a cooperative management plan.

43

44 I think the group recognizes that this is
45 the current plan for the Western Arctic Caribou Herd, it's
46 17 years old. It was basically done by ADF&G and we've all
47 recognized that in that time, times have changed. We like
48 to consult a lot differently and also we recognize that it
49 needs to be a joint effort because of the Federal lands
50 involved. And that's why I'm in a situation here

1 representing a group which is made up of the different
2 State and Federal entities and local citizens. And we just
3 really wanted to keep the RAC apprised of it. I believe
4 this is the new revised map of the range of the Western
5 Arctic Caribou Herd, with some changes that have occurred
6 in recent years. But it just emphasizes the point that the
7 herd covers about a quarter of the state of Alaska, really
8 vitally effects 50 villages and at least four different
9 RACs. So one of the things that the Caribou Working Group
10 is it gets involved in a broader number of issues,
11 probably, than the RAC. It's involved in the health of the
12 herd, talking about research. We've heard talk this
13 morning about development and there's one map of some
14 proposed transportation corridors that would obviously
15 dissect the winter and summer range of the caribou herd.
16 This conflict with reindeer herders. And so I think the
17 Working Group just wanted to closely coordinate with the
18 RAC. It, of course, recognizes that when it comes to
19 regulatory concerns, the RAC is the primary Federal body,
20 they're involved in other things, and if there are any
21 suggestions on management and regulation, that they
22 certainly would work through the RAC on any of those.

23
24 And attached to this, we had a working
25 group meeting in Anchorage yesterday that Jeanie and Jim
26 and I attended, and Pias Washington's on that group and
27 Elmer Seetot, Phil Driver and Benedict Jones, and that's
28 the group that's actually trying to draft the new plan.
29 And we have a pretty ambitious schedule of trying to get
30 most of that done in the next year. And I guess the other
31 thing that we just wanted to pass on to the RAC, the
32 proposal is we've got a meeting set up in April, probably
33 in Kotzebue or Galena, to really work on that plan. And
34 once we do that, the proposal is for the next Caribou News
35 Trail that we send out, rather than being like a general
36 paper like we've done recently, the next one will be just
37 specifically kind of a planning process newsletter to
38 solicit public input into it. And we sent out about 9,000
39 -- they print about 9,000 copies, it goes to every box
40 holder in the region of the herd and so it's a pretty big
41 public involvement process and we certainly want to fully
42 involve the RAC at whatever level they want to get involved
43 in in this planning process.

44
45 And so I guess I just wanted to inform you
46 about what was going on and maybe answer any questions.

47
48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: From the RAC perspective
49 we have Enoch Shiedt and Raymond Stoney on that planning
50 committee so I think we're well represented as far as the

1 planning committee is concerned.

2

3 MR. SPIRITES: One of the issues that was
4 brought before the group has been health, it's been a major
5 issue, on the herd and, Jim, did you want to just mention a
6 few things about what's been going on with that.

7

8 MR. DAU: I've been getting calls for years
9 about sick caribou and so we were trying to get information
10 out to people. And I think most of you guys have seen
11 these, I'm talking about these little booklets on disease,
12 I know Willie you grabbed a bunch.

13

14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Eye-openers.

15

16 MR. DAU: Right. I've got about 20 of them
17 here, Bert, I sent some down with Joe Ballot, I don't know
18 you've gotten one yet, but I guess what I'd like to say to
19 the RAC members is I don't have a real good way to
20 distribute all these booklets. And so what I have done is,
21 people in the Caribou Working Group, like I gave Joe a
22 hundred or them to hand out in Selawik. I've provided
23 between 50 and 100 to every village in the region so far
24 but what I need is people like you guys that are on RACs or
25 advisory committees or on working groups to give these
26 things to active hunters. I'd really like to get them out
27 to the hunters. For Unite 23, we've got 1,500 booklets and
28 I've probably got several hundred left. So if you know
29 people that don't have these direct them to us or if you
30 want to take some back to your village, get ahold of me and
31 I'll give you a bunch and you can take them back and hand
32 them out. That's the main thing I wanted to say about
33 disease.

34

35 I think Dave's hit most of the high points
36 about the planning group.

37

38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What about the studies
39 -- well, not the studies but the samples that were given to
40 you in the last couple of years, have you gotten any
41 results back?

42

43 MR. DAU: We've gotten some results. The
44 samples from the 1994 and '95 die-off up around Cape
45 Thompson, we got those back a couple years ago and a
46 veterinarian of the North Slope Borough Wildlife
47 Department, he's analyzed the stuff and actually written up
48 a paper -- two papers, one on metals, heavy metals and the
49 other on radio nucleates. And the bottom line on those is
50 we found really no evidence of increased metal levels in

1 any of the caribou that were shot over around Red Dog or
2 that died in that starvation event up there in '94 and '95.
3 Same thing with isotopes, isotope levels were really low.
4 They were lower than predicted in the 60s. So based on the
5 lab analysis from the '94/95 samples, we didn't see any
6 sign of contamination. We did see every indication that
7 the animals had starved. We so no lesions in the mouth,
8 you know, no burns, nothing to indicate that they were
9 poisoned by either metals or isotopes.

10
11 Now, the die-off that happened last year,
12 we brought veterinarians, one from Barrow, one from UAF
13 over there, they collected samples from 34 carcasses and we
14 don't have results back from the labs yet on either metals
15 or isotopes. But again the characteristics they saw on
16 those carcasses they looked at it looks like just classic
17 starvation again. They didn't see any lesions or burns in
18 the mouth to indicate poisoning.

19
20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So you think it's
21 starvation again?

22
23 MR. DAU: I think it's starvation again.
24 You know, I flew over the area both times, I had Enoch with
25 me last year, we counted carcasses together and when we
26 were counting carcasses there were still quite a few
27 caribou in the area and the caribou that were alive were in
28 tough shape. When we did the 10 month old, the short
29 yearling surveys in the spring, we saw almost no calves of
30 that year and that was consistent with what people told us
31 from Point Hope that were telling us we were mostly seeing
32 calves. All those things kind of add up to say it looks
33 like starvation. I landed and picked up a satellite collar
34 from a caribou that died up there and there's almost no
35 likeness up there at all. There's likeness that they don't eat
36 like sterocollin.

37
38 MR. SHIEDT: Right.

39
40 MR. DAU: But the clodoneans and the
41 clidinas, they just aren't there. So I don't think -- I'm
42 pretty sure that, again, the lab analysis are just going to
43 confirm that these things starved.

44
45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Enoch.

46
47 MR. SHIEDT: Just to say so far when I
48 travel to the villages or when I have a meeting with my
49 villages they wanted copies of the studies, at least, sent
50 to me direct, and I'll give it out. So if you have any

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1 copies from the samples that were sent out, if you got the
2 results I would like to have it.

3

4 Also he is right, the likens, and the Point
5 Hope people are stressing that there's a lot of likens.
6 And, you know, it's really hard to tell the difference
7 between likens and the ones they don't eat and they thought
8 that when we flew over there was a lot of likens in Point
9 Hope, when we landed they weren't likens, they were
10 something they'd never eaten, that's why they starve, I
11 think. That's my feeling. And when I flew with him, I
12 mean there was a lot of animals that were barely moving. I
13 mean it was a sight nobody should see, you know, it was
14 terrible.

15

16 MR. DAU: I can remember counting two
17 carcasses and made a low pass to look at them and low and
18 behold one of them got up.

19

20 MR. SHIEDT: I mean.....

21

22 MR. DAU: It couldn't move its legs were
23 just locked. And then I came back around, I can't remember
24 if you were with me or Joe Swan.....

25

26 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, I was.

27

28 MR. DAU:yeah, I guess it was you and
29 we came back around to look again, I says, holy cow, that
30 one got up and then the second one got up. They looked
31 just like the ones that were laying there froze. So,
32 again, the ones that made it through were not in good shape
33 they were close to starvation.

34

35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Joe.

36

37 MR. AREY: Talking about starvation on
38 caribou, what about those fat ones they get up river and
39 they got all that puss and stuff inside of them?

40

41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Give him a book.

42

43 (Laughter)

44

45 MR. AREY: They're not good.

46

47 MR. GREIST: There seems like there's a
48 rise in that, really, I've seen at least between 15 and 20
49 cases like that and from other people as well.

50

1 MR. DAU: The big joints, when you look in
2 the book, that's brucellosis, usually, there can be other
3 things, too. But, you know, the puss and the lesions, it
4 could be a lot of different things. You know, we're
5 collecting blood samples in Onion Portage and we've done
6 that now for about 10 years and we're seeing no change in
7 time with results of those specific tests for bacteria or
8 viruses. But the problem with our tests is, there's not a
9 test for every single disease out there.

10
11 This year we've started looking at a new
12 indicator of disease. It doesn't tell you what the disease
13 is, it just sort of tells you whether the animal's sick or
14 not. And I'm just now getting data back to '92, I haven't
15 gotten the results for all those yet but hopefully that
16 will give us a better idea of changes through time, even
17 though it won't tell us the cause.

18
19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Enoch.

20
21 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, is it possible to get
22 our likens tested for contaminants from different sections
23 in our Northwest Arctic Region from our range over here,
24 like Point Hope, Kivalina, probably Kiana and probably
25 Buckland; is it possible to have them tested? Because more
26 and more caribou are getting sick, you know, I mean it's
27 got to start from the food chain somewhere. Because when I
28 had the snow tested last year in our area, we had a lot of
29 DTT, that came, a fall-out and it was due to the shelf life
30 of six months. So I'm trying to draft a letter right now
31 to see if they could reduce the shelf life to three months
32 and it's going to be a big battle and of all places they're
33 going to move it to Africa, the meeting, so probably two of
34 us from Alaska, the Native scientist out of Galena and
35 probably me.

36
37 MR. DAU: You can sure test likens for
38 contaminants and actually that's one thing I've suggested
39 to the NANA/Comminco people. There's been concern about
40 dust on the vegetation being picked up by the caribou and
41 that's why we killed caribou back in '95, was to look for
42 those metals. At the time I said, you know, it's a whole
43 lot easier to just pick grass and pick leaves and have
44 those tested and keep the dust on them.

45
46 MR. SHIEDT: Uh-huh.

47
48 MR. DAU: So, you know, we can do that.
49 When I worked in Nome, we actually collected likens down
50 there right after the Cherenobyl incident and we sent those

1 into UAF. At the time they had a radiation lab and they
2 could test that right in Fairbanks and it was quick. But
3 right now, I don't think their lab is going but we can
4 certainly do that and if we do it, I think we ought to give
5 it some thought and not just look in Unit 23, we should
6 look in Unit 22 where they're wintering and we should look
7 at the North Slope where they're spending the summer.

8

9 MR. SHIEDT: Because I'm sort of concerned
10 about the liken they eat because our Natives eat it when
11 they -- overnight, when they store it, they still eat it
12 nowadays and what I'm saying is, if the likens are
13 contaminated, our people could be eating it.

14

15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Dave, have you got
16 copies of the study that was done on the grass along the
17 road or the plant life; I see that in one of these handouts
18 that that's been done.

19

20 MR. SPIRTES: No, really what happened
21 along the road corridor, was that a few plantacologist just
22 made some -- just collected some samples and it wasn't a
23 scientific study, it was just random. And it showed
24 elevated levels of lead and zinc within a mile of the road.
25 So basically what they did was they used that information
26 to get funding for a study which is going to happen this
27 summer. And so there really is no scientific data on last
28 year, there will be after this study is conducted this
29 summer and we'll be happy to share that with the RAC as
30 soon as we can get the results back.

31

32 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: One thing you could do
33 is get the information where the spills have happened over
34 the last -- since 1990 -- no, when was the first time of a
35 spill, I forget when, over the last few years, they have
36 that data. The exact locations where the spills took
37 place. But there's some areas where there's never been any
38 spills, you know.

39

40 MR. SPIRTES: Well, just in looking at it,
41 one of the interesting issues was that there seemed to be a
42 build-up consistently along the road, it wasn't a lot
43 higher either at the port side or the mine end. It was
44 pretty consistent along the road. And NANA, or actually
45 have a new design of haul truck they're going to use to
46 replace the tarps and have one that's completely enclosed.
47 But we'll certainly, as we do that study we'll make that
48 available to you.

49

50 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

1 MR. SPIRITES: And one of the interesting
2 things that, I think, Jim brought up, and what we want to
3 do with the new management plan, I think first this chart
4 here shows that the decline of the numbers of the caribou
5 in the late '70s. And I think, of course, every meeting it
6 comes up that there's great debate about how great that
7 decline was and skepticism about the numbers and so that's
8 why I think we're looking for new ways to involve local
9 people in the count so that it has more credibility.

10
11 And also Enoch brought up some good ideas
12 of trying to integrate more traditional knowledge. Is
13 there some way we can collect information on the fat
14 content of caribou that might help us predict changes
15 because sometime when we do a count and then wait a year
16 before we get the results back, we can tell what's happened
17 to the herd, but not really -- it's not a very good
18 predictive indicator. So I think this is a real
19 opportunity with this planning effort. And it's also one
20 of the few, if not the only one that's done before there's
21 a crises. Usually everybody waits until a herd crashes or
22 something and then tries to do it. What this is trying to
23 do is get agreement ahead of time and needless to say, the
24 old plan, I think, talked about a minimum number of 200,000
25 animals in the herd. We're going to really have to work
26 with all constituencies and the RAC, you know, what are our
27 goals? And then what are the potential management regimes
28 as the herd gets to different levels? So we're glad that
29 we have so many members from the RAC on our planning group
30 and we really need to work on this together.

31
32 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any other questions?

33
34 MR. GREIST: You don't foresee a parallel
35 to the late '70 crash then, not necessarily?

36
37 MR. DAU: Well, not really. I said that
38 the herd has been more or less stable since about 1990. So
39 it's not like the herd's growing, growing, growing, growing
40 at 14 percent every year and then drops off. It grew at 13
41 or 14 percent a year from '76 to '90, but from '90 to '96,
42 the change per year was only two or three percent, from '96
43 to '99, it might have been a two percent decline, it might
44 have been stable. But, you know, basically that's within
45 the range of error on our estimate anyway. I think the
46 herd has already been stable and very high for over 10
47 years. I would expect the herd to start down just like
48 most local people seem to expect it, too. But I think, you
49 know, to answer your question, a lot is going to depend on
50 weather.

1 MR. GREIST: Weather.

2

3 MR. DAU: You know, these things sort of
4 escape predators. They've kind of escaped hunters just by
5 shear numbers but they can't escape the weather. We get
6 two or three tough winters and things could happen fast.

7

8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Enoch.

9

10 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, you ever talk to elders
11 or try to get traditional knowledge on -- after they
12 decline, the elders, the one that went two declines and I'm
13 talking about an elder that lived until he was about 117
14 (ph) and he taught me quite a bit about caribou. And he
15 said, every time they decline and when they go back up,
16 when they build back up and his grandfather told him that,
17 when they grow back up they build it in higher numbers than
18 before. So I just want to prove what he said -- you know,
19 I know he knows what he was talking about and the decline
20 we had here in the 70s really build up real strong.

21

22 MR. DAU: Uh-huh.

23

24 MR. SHIEDT: But the only reason why
25 they're going to build up strong is due to the adoption of
26 reindeer. And they told me in the 50s, that if they take
27 -- if caribou take the reindeer our numbers are going to
28 skyrocket. See, and these are the things that we need to
29 be aware of, we think the caribou is really growing in
30 numbers but if you talk about it, there's no more reindeer
31 herds out there. See these things they got to be compared
32 somehow.

33

34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any other comments or
35 questions? So you see the schedule for the working group?

36

37 MR. DAU: Willie, I'll leave these here, if
38 anyone wants them grab them.

39

40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

41

42 MR. SPIRITES: So the schedule is there.
43 And then our planning meeting in Kotzebue or Galena will be
44 April 25th and 26th. So John Trent will be getting some
45 information out on that fairly soon. He'll also have
46 minutes from both the Anaktuvuk Pass meeting and our
47 meeting -- our planning committee meeting, so we'll make
48 sure that you get those fairly soon, Mr. Chairman.

49

50 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, thank you. The

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1 next item on the agenda is the Northwest Regional Advisory
2 Council appointment to Gates or to the Commissions of the
3 Gates of the Arctic and Kobuk Valley. We have this hand
4 out that shows -- now as I understand it, if we don't make
5 any -- we can make some appointments here and then do the
6 rest in the fall meetings or is that generally the schedule
7 for the fall meeting, make appointments so there's some --
8 there's a couple of them here that we should consider
9 taking action on or if it's the wish of the RAC we can wait
10 until the fall meeting to make the appointments. But we
11 have a vacancy of the Gates of the Arctic for Levi
12 Cleveland. Frank Commack from Shungnak is interested and I
13 think that would be an appropriate appointment by the RAC.

14

15

16 On the other one, the Kobuk Valley one,
17 Louie Commack, I understand is interested in retaining that
18 seat.

19

20 Bert.

21

22 MR. GREIST: Is that a Federal or a State
23 appointment?

24

25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It's ours.

26

27 MR. GREIST: No, Frank Commack?

28

29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It would be ours, we
30 have the authority to make three of them.

31

32 MR. GREIST: Federal?

33

34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, Federal.

35

36 MR. GREIST: Federal appointment, yeah.

37

38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So what's the wish of
39 the RAC?

40

41 MR. GREIST: Mr. Chairman, I move that we
42 appoint Frank Commack to the Upper Kobuk Advisory -- Gates
43 of the Arctic?

44

45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second?

46

47 MR. AREY: Second

48

49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Second by Joe. That's
50 to the Subsistence Resource Commission for the Gates of the

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1 Arctic National Park and he would be replacing Levi
2 Cleveland. Any more discussion on that?

3

4 MR. GREIST: Question.

5

6 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All those in favor
7 signify by saying aye.

8

9 IN UNISON: Aye.

10

11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Opposed.

12

13 (No opposing votes)

14

15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, that one's taken
16 care of. I know in the Krusenstern Monument, I think what
17 we should do and need to do is give Barb some time to
18 contact these members and see if they want to be
19 reappointed or if we have other members of the State
20 Advisory Committee or any members of the RAC that want to
21 be part of these Resource Commissions and then we can make
22 the appointments in the fall time on the Krusenstern one.
23 One person did contact me, Alex Whiting for consideration,
24 but I'd rather that we make the appointment for both seats
25 at the same time, if that's okay.

26

27 MR. GREIST: Good idea.

28

29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The other one is Kobuk
30 Valley one and how many are open here?

31

32 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chairman.

33

34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yes.

35

36 MR. ADKISSON: If I could maybe give you a
37 quick status report on those.

38

39 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Sure, come up to the
40 mike Ken.

41

42 MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson, Western Arctic
43 National Park lands. You can actually make three
44 appointments to either the Krusenstern or Kobuk Valley
45 appointments each. All three terms have expired, actually
46 all six of them have expired. The Kobuk for example,
47 though, technically the requirements for your appointments
48 are that they either be a member of this RAC or they be a
49 member of a local Fish and Game Advisory Committee and also
50 be an eligible subsistence user according to Park Service

1 standards so that means they'd have to be a member of a
2 resident zone community and a user of the resource ideally.

3

4

5 Of the people who are on the Kobuk
6 currently, Reggie Cleveland, Louie Commack, Lori Schuerch,
7 it's my understanding that only Louie Commack is still a
8 member of a Fish and Game Advisory Committee. So
9 technically I would read that to mean he would be eligible
10 for reappointment if he was interested, by your body. The
11 other two are no longer on any kind of committee or --
12 well, obviously they're not on the RAC or a Fish and Game
13 Advisory Committee so my read on that is they would no
14 longer be eligible.

15

16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: They would automatically
17 vacant, those two positions?

18

19 MR. ADKISSON: That would be my read on it,
20 yeah.

21

22 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

23

24 MR. ADKISSON: But if you don't take any
25 action, you know, it has happened elsewhere that for very
26 reasons a RAC has not -- has chosen not to take action and
27 they've allowed those individuals to continue. But I think
28 it would probably be a cleaner process if we complied with
29 the basic requirements and that those two seats were filled
30 at a convenient time and I don't think it needs to be now.

31

32 The same situation with your Krusenstern
33 Commission is, is that up there, basically Bill Bailey is
34 the only one by my calculations that is still eligible for
35 retention even, though, you could choose to replace him,
36 for example. The other two, Pete Schaeffer and Jerry
37 Norton, by my read are no longer eligible because they're
38 no longer on a State Fish and Game Advisory Committee or a
39 RAC.

40

41 We're trying to get a Krusenstern and Kobuk
42 Valley SRC meeting together for the end of March and so for
43 continuity purposes, you know, and as you say, to allow
44 Barb more time to contact some of the individuals, it might
45 be more appropriate to hold off action until next fall's
46 meeting. We've tried to work with the local Fish and Game
47 Advisory Committee meeting system and get out information
48 to those committees about it, the only one I was able to
49 personally plug into this time was the Kotzebue committee
50 which met last Monday and I did present them with

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1 information, the basic information. The others we've had
2 to try to work through with teleconferences or whatever and
3 some have been sort of successful, others haven't, and so
4 we're still trying to get information out. We can work
5 with Barb on that.

6

7 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Thank you. What's the
8 wish, do you want to hold off?

9

10 MR. GREIST: Hold off.

11

12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Even the Kobuk
13 Valley one, too?

14

15 MR. GREIST: Yes.

16

17 MR. SHIEDT: Okay.

18

19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Time and place of our
20 next public meeting.

21

22 MR. GREIST: Fall?

23

24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The fall meeting, what
25 -- yeah, I think, September or October.

26

27 MR. GREIST: September is much better,
28 October is always busy.

29

30 MR. AREY: (In Native) September.

31

32 MR. GREIST: Yeah.

33

34 (Laughter)

35

36 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Jim.

37

38 MR. DAU: Just a comment to remind you that
39 the Board of Game is going to meet in Kotzebue in October
40 and it would be really nice if you guys were available to
41 come to the Board of Game so it would be nice.

42

43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What days is it?

44

45 MR. DAU: I'm not sure that -- I don't
46 think a date has been set yet but it's going to be in
47 October and it's going to be in Kotzebue.

48

49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Should we make it during
50 the time.

1 MR. GREIST: Make it during that time.

2

3 MR. DAU: Just so you're available.

4

5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

6

7 MR. DAU: It'd be really good if you guys
8 could attend, just so you don't have to be in two meetings
9 at one time because that's always a drag.

10

11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Right. Maybe we can
12 have ours just before this Board of Game meeting and then
13 we -- if guys want to stay over to testify at the Board of
14 Game it would be appropriate.

15

16 MR. GREIST: I like that idea.

17

18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

19

20 MR. DAU: This would give you time to
21 comment on State proposals.

22

23 MR. GREIST: A couple of days before.

24

25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

26

27 MR. SHIEDT: Hopefully it's not on Monday,
28 that would be a whole week.

29

30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, that sounds like a
31 good plan. We'll have it just prior to the Board of Game
32 meeting.

33

34 MR. GREIST: Okay.

35

36 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. And I don't have
37 a date either, nobody has, I don't think, uh?

38

39 MR. DAU: Not yet.

40

41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. But that schedule
42 will be made.

43

44 MR. DAU: We'll let you know as soon as a
45 date is picked.

46

47 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Enoch.

48

49 MR. SHIEDT: I wasn't here yesterday and so
50 I need to know -- I need to respond to Kivalina and they

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1 wanted to know if we got authority to work on the bears
2 because there's getting way too many and they want to know
3 what can we do to open up the bears more than what it's at?
4 Not only just to local hunters.

5

6 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. What I'll do is
7 go back to the village concerns, okay, on the agenda. We
8 didn't completely close it out this morning. So Joe, I
9 think Joe wanted to bring that same issue up, too, right,
10 Joe.

11

12 MR. AREY: Yeah.

13

14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The bears?

15

16 MR. AREY: Yeah, the bears.

17

18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Noatak, Kivalina area.

19

20 MR. SHIEDT: Noatak, Kivalina.

21

22 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Barb.

23

24 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, that would come up
25 in your fall meeting, that's when we come in for wildlife
26 proposals in the fall.

27

28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah. Yeah, I know
29 that, but I think their concern wants to be raised now so
30 that it does come up in the fall meeting of some kind of a
31 proposal.

32

33 MR. SHIEDT: So what you're saying is I got
34 to go to Kivalina and help them right a proposal, Noatak
35 and Kivalina?

36

37 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: One thing you might want
38 to consider is to liberalizing the season, you know,
39 instead of every four years to every two years or
40 sporthunting or more than one or whatever. Those
41 considerations, and I think Jim would be able to work with
42 you on that, uh?

43

44 MR. DAU: (Nods affirmatively)

45

46 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, because those people
47 that were trying to store their fish for winter.....

48

49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Right.

50

1 MR. SHIEDT:they have a hard time
2 because these bears are eating them left or right.

3
4 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Uh-huh.

5
6 MR. GREIST: Yeah, even the berry pickers.

7
8 MR. SHIEDT: Even the berry pickers, yeah.

9
10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, so you can work
11 with Jim on a proposal for Kivalina and for Noatak and it's
12 probably a companion one from Noatak or from both places.
13 I know we raised that when we were doing the moose census a
14 year ago when the study was done showing that the moose
15 mortality for calves was pretty high due to bears.

16
17 MR. SHIEDT: I'm not worried about the
18 moose, they never was here to start with anyway.

19
20 (Laughter)

21
22 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: They're not here when we
23 want them anyway.

24
25 (Laughter)

26
27 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, Joe, are you
28 satisfied with that?

29
30 MR. AREY: Yeah.

31
32 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Anything else on
33 the village concerns?

34
35 MR. SHIEDT: I had another one. I wasn't
36 here, again, like I say.....

37
38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Uh-huh.

39
40 MR. SHIEDT:beavers is.....

41
42 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, we talked about
43 it.

44
45 MR. SHIEDT: I know they're unlimited.

46
47 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Right.

48
49 MR. SHIEDT: But there is no market out
50 there and that's why there's getting to be -- and they're

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1 starting to move down from the Kobuk area instead of, you
2 know, how they used to.....

3

4 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Behind here now.

5

6 MR. SHIEDT:and they're as much as
7 all the way to Rabbit Creek. So what did you guys -- I
8 need answers, I mean they're going to call me again and
9 say, what happened Enoch, it's my villages I'm talking
10 about, they use me for.....

11

12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What do they want to
13 see?

14

15 MR. SHIEDT: Uh?

16

17 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What do they want? What
18 do they want to see?

19

20 MR. SHIEDT: They want to see if they can
21 get rid of the beavers because they're scared for the
22 spawning grounds getting blocked off, especially the ones
23 towards Rabbit Creek and those other couple of creeks
24 towards Noatak. And the fish are up there now, will they
25 be able to go out again, these are the seagoing fish, you
26 know, that's been -- summer in the sea and they come back
27 and if we destroyed dams now they would always rebuild them
28 because those are engineers are -- which some of these
29 people would learn from, they're real good engineers. So I
30 know there's no market and there's -- and I was looking for
31 funds to see if I could get any money to -- at least watch
32 Rabbit Creek for now, use it for an example because we
33 could probably stop that -- because when it's coming out,
34 it's not like the other rivers. Rabbit Creek don't come
35 out with all that mud, it just come out pretty much clean
36 when it breaks up.

37

38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I wonder if we can ask
39 for funding for dynamite.

40

41 (Laughter)

42

43 MR. SHIEDT: Because we could pretty much,
44 you know, stop Rabbit Creek at break-up, it's not as mucky
45 as the other rivers coming out and I have seen it come out
46 like that.

47

48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So at the present time
49 there's no closed season on them?

50

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1 MR. SHIEDT: No open or close that I know
2 of.

3
4 MR. JENNINGS: It's year-round.

5
6 MR. SHIEDT: It's year-round.

7
8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It's year-round, no
9 limit, yeah.

10
11 MR. JENNINGS: With a limit of 50 a year.

12
13 MR. SHIEDT: Fifty.

14
15 MR. JENNINGS: In the Kobuk and Selawik
16 drainages.

17
18 MR. SHIEDT: Per person or per family.

19
20 MR. JENNINGS: Person.

21
22 MR. SHIEDT: Okay, that means unlimited.

23
24 (Laughter)

25
26 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Jim.

27
28 MR. DAU: Actually that one came up in
29 front of the Board of Game in '97 and in Unit 23 now we did
30 several things, there is now a hunting season for beavers.
31 It used to be, you had to have a trapping license, so no
32 there's a hunting season, it's never closed but you can
33 kill beavers on a hunting license. There's no limit for
34 hunting, no limit for trapping in Unit 23. You no longer
35 have to seal beavers that you get, all you have to do is
36 salvage either the hide or meat. We've made it as easy as
37 we possibly can for people to get beavers but you can't
38 make people go out and trap them.

39
40 We've even worked with the Refuge and
41 brought a guy over from Fairbanks to do a trapping clinic.

42
43 MR. SHIEDT: I'll give you my reason why I
44 brought up the beavers. When I talk to the Interior people
45 and they lost -- YK-Delta, they lose a lot of fish to the
46 beavers and that's why they're not spawning as much and
47 that's why they're depleting the stock and I want to stay
48 ahead of my game for my area, you know, I don't want to end
49 up in the same boat because we use a lot of fish. We use
50 five different kind of whitefish, trout and sheefish. You

1 know, we have to stay ahead. I mean if we're going to
2 worry about our game, we need to start worrying now instead
3 of when it's too late. Because the State, they always wait
4 until it's too late or when they rebuild them they get the
5 numbers too high and that's why it's really bad for -- for
6 out there. We need to stay ahead of the game is what I'm
7 saying and you guys got to start listening to the Natives
8 because we know what we're talking about and the elders
9 know what they're talking about. I mean they don't have to
10 be biologists and they don't need that paper saying they
11 are, the elders know what they're talking about. You need
12 to slow down and listen to them.

13
14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Thank you.

15
16 MR. GREIST: I'll keep in close contact
17 Jim. We held that trapping class and they're interested in
18 doing another one this year. There was one scheduled.

19
20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Joe.

21
22 MR. AREY: Yeah, talking about beaver. I
23 think that land otters are really coming up too. Because
24 back home now they see a whole bunch of -- they don't just
25 see the tracks, they see the otter going from river to all
26 over. And now we ask around, when we go out, you have to
27 go look for the fish because they chase them away from the
28 open place and we just -- it's just as bad as beaver, if
29 they're not worse. Just about every day, somebody say they
30 see otter and nobody's hunting them, they just grow.

31
32 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Maybe you could work on
33 that one, too, Enoch, the otter.

34
35 MR. GREIST: Otter, it's growing in
36 Selawik, they're all over.

37
38 MR. SHIEDT: I'll try.

39
40 (Laughter)

41
42 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Otters for Noatak, Unit
43 23. Anything else?

44
45 MR. GREIST: No, but I guess the question
46 is, how are we going to proceed on the beaver study, beaver
47 impact?

48
49 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, who do I talk to?

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The damming of the
2 studies -- I mean as I understand, we're going to have to
3 wait until we see the results of the one that was done,
4 Rod?

5
6 MR. SIMMONS: No, you don't need to wait,
7 Mr. Chair, to submit a request for getting a proposal
8 designed. That information is forthcoming in terms of the
9 methodology that was used in the Yukon Flats for looking at
10 the relationship. And there'd probably be some question
11 anyway in terms of whether or not you could apply the
12 result -- whatever results come out of something in the
13 Yukon Flats, whether it could be applied all the way out
14 here may be questionable anyway. So I don't think that
15 there's any reason to delay getting a, what we call a
16 preproposal, which is just sort of a one page layout of a
17 study design. Particularly if you can come up with
18 something that's related to a specific creek or stream
19 where you know that there's -- you know, based upon your
20 experience that you've seen a lot of beaver coming in and
21 changing the way the water flows and you're seeing changes
22 in the whitefish populations. I mean it sounds like it's
23 one ready to -- if you can -- the more you can define it in
24 terms of a specific area the more I think we can
25 accommodate a study to look at it. And, of course, as Rich
26 presented earlier, the nearest opportunity to get that
27 funded through this subsistence program would be 2003. So
28 you just need to be aware of that.

29
30 MR. GREIST: So the 50 limit is the Federal
31 reg?

32
33 MR. SHIEDT: Per person.

34
35 MR. GREIST: Oh.

36
37 MR. SHIEDT: On beavers?

38
39 MR. GREIST: Per person?

40
41 MR. SHIEDT: Uh-huh. So you could take
42 your children and get what you want.

43
44 MR. GREIST: You know, in Selawik we could
45 see 30 at a time in one bunch.

46
47 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I think what we want to
48 do is go ahead and submit a proposal for the beaver dam
49 whitefish interaction problem.

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1 MR. GREIST: Spring time.

2

3 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Spring time.

4

5 MR. AREY: Yeah.

6

7 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: That's what we want to
8 see done.

9

10 MR. GREIST: And the snow melt.

11

12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Do you need a motion
13 from us to do that?

14

15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No.

16

17 MR. SIMMONS: No.

18

19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, so you'll just do
20 it, uh?

21

22 MS. FOX: Just a minute, I'm trying to get
23 out my document that tells you when to do this work. We're
24 quite a ways away from the time to do that time.

25

26 MR. GREIST: For next -- this season, we'll
27 go ahead and do it this fall then?

28

29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: No, we can do it --
30 well, can we take it up on the.....

31

32 MS. FOX: In the fall.

33

34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:in the fall
35 meeting?

36

37 MS. FOX: That would be the time to do it,
38 not now.

39

40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

41

42 MS. FOX: And then we can have Staff.....

43

44 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: But we can have one
45 prepared for that meeting.....

46

47 MS. FOX:Staff.....

48

49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:uh?

50

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1 MS. FOX:can work with you to prepare
2 it at that time.

3
4 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

5
6 MS. FOX: Okay.

7
8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All right. Okay, thank
9 you.

10
11 MR. SIMMONS: You bet.

12
13 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What else? Anything
14 LeeAnne?

15
16 MS. AYRES: When I was talking with folks
17 about the beaver.....

18
19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: LeeAnne Ayres.

20
21 MS. AYRES: LeeAnne Ayres, Fish and
22 Wildlife. And I suggest you talk with Ross Schaeffer at
23 the Borough because he had some ideas about how to create
24 some economic opportunities with beaver in order to
25 increase the harvest around the village. So that might be
26 another avenue to go as well as the study proposal. And
27 the trapping clinic, that was one of the -- one of the
28 problems was that there really wasn't any market for it.

29
30 MR. GREIST: That's the problem.

31
32 MS. AYRES: So it might be just another
33 avenue to pursue between NANA and the Borough, maybe some
34 ideas of how to generate some more interest in trapping.

35
36 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Thank you. Anyone else?
37 Anything else from this RAC?

38
39 MR. GREIST: Motion to adjourn.

40
41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any objection? Hearing
42 none, we're adjourned. Thank you, very much.

43
44 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

45 * * * * *

